Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXIII, Issue No. 173 | FRIDAY AUGUST 30, 2013 | www.saipantribune.com | 75¢

GOT A NEWS TIP?
TEL: 235-6397
235-2440
FAX: 235-3740
EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

OPINION METER
This week's poll:

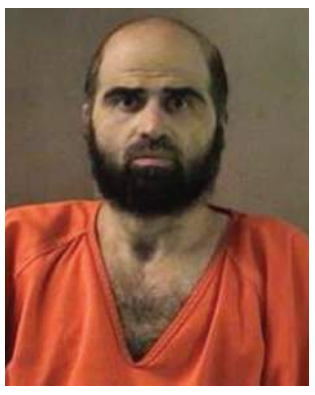
Do you support increasing taxes on some consumer products as a means to raise funds for the Commonwealth Health Center?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

32 days to go before the start of the new fiscal year

INSIDE

NATION



A jury has sentenced Maj. Nidal Hasan to death for the 2009 shooting at Fort Hood. ➤ PAGE 18

ASIA

Janet Lim-Napoles has surrendered to Philippine President Benigno Aquino III. ➤ PAGE 19

New 14.1K cap on CW's pushed

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

» Inos to SHRM: Work harder to employ more US workers
» Uncertainty remains on 5-year extension, wage hike delay

Gov. Eloy S. Inos has asked U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to reduce next year the cap on transitional Commonwealth-only workers by "only by 6 percent"—from 15,000 to just 14,100—in anticipation of a tourism growth that would need more manpower, which the U.S. worker labor pool still cannot provide at this time.

See CAP on Page 4

Inos: I am running for governor in 2014

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos told *Saipan Tribune* last night that he is running for governor under the Covenant Party in the 2014 elections, hoping that voters will allow him to continue implementing his recovery plan and other reforms to "put us back on track."

"I am running for governor in 2014," Inos said. "Running for one full term will give me the opportunity to continue turning things around. I see good things happening but we need to do more."

Inos ascended to the governor's post on Feb. 20 after former governor Benigno R. Fitial resigned days before the start of his impeachment trial at the Senate.

He has been governor for just six months but the government has already been making strides in prolonging the NMI Retirement Fund's lifespan and

See GOVERNOR on Page 4

ANOTHER GROUNDBREAKING HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
Department of Public Works Secretary Martin Sablan, left, and Gov. Eloy S. Inos, right, prepare to wear a protective hat shortly before yesterday's ceremonial shoveling of dirt for the $4 million Cross Island Road improvement project-Phase II-B that has been delayed by two years because of procurement protests and appeals. See story on Page 2

AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

ICS probe gathers dust

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

» $187K improper payments remain uncollected

It's been more than a year since the government terminated the services of then-hospital contractor Idaho-based International Consulting Services, but nothing seems to be moving in the investigation of the Office of Public Auditor and the Office of the Attorney General.

Commonwealth Healthcare

See ICS on Page 4

Ayuyu

Ayuyu out of Senate on Sept. 30

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Senators accepted yesterday Sen. Juan M. Ayuyu's (Ind-Rota) resignation as a member of the 18th Senate, which now takes effect Sept. 30 instead of the original date of Oct. 7, while awaiting his November sentencing in connection with smuggling endangered fruit bats from Rota to Saipan and obstruction of justice.

Ayuyu, 48, faces 33 to 41 months in prison.

He is the first lawmaker in the 18th Legislature to step down from office.

His term as senator ends in January 2015, way before the end of his possible prison term.

Ayuyu visited the Senate yesterday morning and met with some of his colleagues, including Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) and Rules

See AYUYU on Page 4

King questions FBI's voice ID procedure in 911 call. PAGE 3
Ex-lawmaker Tenorio takes the witness stand. PAGE 5

Local

AFTER 2-YEAR DELAY

$4M Cross Island road project finally begins

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

After a two-year snag over procurement protests and appeals, an over-$4 million road improvement project from Kagman to Capital Hill finally kicks off with yesterday's groundbreaking led by Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP).

Phase II-B of the Cross Island Road or Isa Drive Improvement Project, funded both by Federal Highway Administration and ARRA money, is expected to be completed on Oct. 16, 2014.

DPW issued an Aug. 13, 2013, notice to proceed to Hawaiian Rock Products, which bagged the $3.824 million contract for the project construction.

"Finally, we're moving forward on this project after a two-year delay," Department of Public Works Secretary Martin Sablan told *Saipan Tribune* at the event.

Sablan said the delays were a result of a procurement protest and appeal on the initial contract award and later on the re-issuance of a request for proposal. When a contract was awarded as a result of the re-issued RFP, GPPC Inc. again protested and appealed.

In his remarks, the governor said he hopes there won't be any more delays.

DPW's Sablan said the two-year delay will also result in a two-year delay on Phase III, which covers the stretch from Capital Hill to the Sadog Tasi-Mobil intersection.

Phases I-A and I-B of the project, from Kagman to San Vicente/Dandan area, have already been completed and have now become one of the better roads on Saipan.

DPW Highway administrator and engineer Sonya Pangelinan Dancoe and Sablan said Phase II-B involves reconstruction of existing roadway to upgrade the pavement.

Work includes excavation and backfilling, construction of sub-base and base courses, laying hot asphaltic concrete pavement with dense graded anti-skid pavement, including pavement markings, shoulders, drainage, driveway connections, and traffic signage.

The project limit starts at about 750 feet past Kagman Road and Isa Drive intersection, and ends at some 300 feet before Capital Hill.

The governor, at the ceremony, said the groundbreaking is "another milestone" that would enhance road safety. He said the addition of a bike lane as well as beautification will also help improve people's quality of life in the area.

He also called on agencies such as the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to help maintain power poles, making sure they are not wrapped with vines to prevent fire hazards and other dangers.

Just like the Wednesday groundbreaking for a new traffic light signal system project in Chalan Kanoa, the governor thanked the delegate for pushing for the expenditure of federal funds granted or awarded to the CNMI.

The project's construction management contractor is RR Group LLC, which bagged a $415,000 contract, DPW said. The architectural and engineering design was done by Henry K. Pangelinan & Associates.

Ponciano "Ponce" P. Corotan, CNMI manager of Hawaiian Rock Products, asked for motorists and the general public's patience and understanding as they work on the road project.

"We hope we can finish this earlier than that [Oct. 16, 2014]," he told the crowd.

Besides the governor, the delegate, lawmakers, Cabinet members and contractors, the event also drew other community members.

IN CRISOSTOMO'S MOTION TO SUPPRESS TESTIMONY

FBI's voice ID procedure questioned

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The lawyer of murder suspect Joseph A. Crisostomo has questioned the constitutionality of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's and other law enforcement officers' manner of playing to witnesses the 911 call recording that captured murdered victim Emerita Romero's voice and a male voice.

Attorney Janet H. King asserted that the FBI's voice identification procedure in the investigation of Romero's case was "unduly suggestive."

King asked the Superior Court to suppress all testimony regarding pre-trial identification of Crisostomo and to preclude any in-court identification made by a witness as a result of the "impermissibly suggestive" identification procedure used by the government.

A 911 call was made to the Department of Public Safety on Feb. 5, 2012, at 3am, coming from Romero's cell phone number. King said that only a part or four minutes of the call was recorded and that the recording captured the voice of Romero and a male voice.

King said that, on Feb. 10, 2012, a technician extracted the 911 call recording to a disc, and later that evening, investigators assigned to the case reviewed the recording. She said the investigators concluded the voice was similar to Crisostomo.

The lawyer said that, on Feb. 17, 2012, Crisostomo's former girlfriend identified the voice of the male as that of Crisostomo.

King said the woman and her male companion were told the purpose of the meeting would be to discuss Crisostomo.

Crisostomo

King said the FBI agent who played the audio recording suggested to the woman that Crisostomo's voice would be on the tape.

"This one-person voice lineup was unduly suggestive," King pointed out.

She said the FBI agent and other law enforcement officers told the witness prior to the identification that they would be discussing Crisostomo.

"Thereafter the entire 911 call was played. No other voice recordings were played," she said.

Citing several previous court rulings, King said the identification of a suspect's voice by a witness is subject to the same constitutional safeguards as other identification procedures.

Such procedures, she said, are subject to the due process requirement that the voice identification not be unduly suggestive.

"Because the pre-trial identification was unduly suggestive and conducive to irreparable misidentification, it must be suppressed," King said.

Chief prosecutor Shelli Neal, in a press conference shortly after Crisostomo was arrested in February 2013, disclosed that Crisostomo was identified due to a combination of things such as a tip received by a detective, physical evidence, and phone record analysis.

Neal had said it was Romero's 911 call that played a key role in the investigation.

FBI agents found the lifeless body of Romero at the former La Fiesta Mall in San Roque/As Matuis on Feb. 7, 2012, two days after she was last seen boarding a car near her house in Garapan.

Jocelyn's
Boutique
for Men and Women & Kids
Business hours: 1:00 pm to 9:00 pm Mondays to Sundays
Located at the Gold Beach Hotel Lobby in beach road.
Telephone Number: 1 (670) 989-2394

DPA CAR MART
We're buying '97 & Up used cars!
Transaction only within 30 mins.
Call 287-8688 or visit
DPA CAR MART in San Antonio

POON'S RESTAURANT
Chinese and Indonesian Food
Serving Saipan since 1983
Special Occasion Promo
(Wedding, Birthday, Christening, Graduation etc.)
$7.99/per person
Try our
All Day Specials
for only $4.50
with Rice, Soup and Iced Tea or Hot Tea
(Take-out order available)
Monday - Sunday
Lunch: 10:30am-2:00pm • Dinner: 5:30pm-9:30pm
Except for Tuesday NO DINNER
Catering Now Available
Call 234-6907/989-1428

ARMATECH

Installer of RF Door Lock System with Software for Commercial and Hotel Applications
Pls call us:
234-8895 / 287-5525

Travel to Rota
Experience untouched nature. Relax and enjoy!
Immediate booking @ sunrisehotel.co
$38.53 tax included.
Call anytime 532-0478/ 233-2644
Our light is on.

Hana Health Massage
Suffering from back pain?
We can help!
$15.00/hr
Full back massage with medicine

Body Massage $15.00/hour
Foot Massage $15.00/hour
Acupuncture Cupping $10.00
OPEN DAILY: 11am to 1am
Beach Road, near Post Office
1st Floor, MSV Building, Chalan Kanoa • Tel: 789-7778, 234-7778

STAY WELL insurance
CNMI GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES
Special Open Enrollment
Apply to StayWell NOW!

MEDICAL RATES PER PAY PERIOD

ACTIVE GOVERNMENT HEALTH PLANS	SINGLE	COUPLE	FAMILY
STAYWELL	$ 67.00	$ 134.00	$ 215.00
Aetna (plus $300 to $900 deductible)	$ 82.45	$ 169.02	$ 263.83
Calvo's SelectCare CNMI-10	$ 92.00	$ 184.00	$ 246.55
Calvo's SelectCare CNMI-80	$ 74.73	$ 149.46	$ 221.57
Calvo's SelectCare CNMI-80 Philippines only	$ 65.05	$ 130.10	$ 196.50
StayWell Maximum Annual Member Refund	$ 375.00	$ 750.00	$ 1,236.00

UNIQUE STAYWELL BENEFITS
- No deductibles!
- Only health plan with a member refund program (see max refunds above)
- *Up to 90% coverage for on-island outpatient services
- *Up to 100% coverage for on-island maternity services
- *100% coverage for off-island in-patient care (including US mainland)
- Not restricted to going to Philippines providers only for off-island care
- Common law spouse and married spouse pay the same premium rate
- Only health plan with a Gold's Gym membership benefit
- Non-network provider coverage at 70% of eligible charges
- Optional dental plan with access to all CNMI dental providers

*Some conditions apply

Contact StayWell at 323-4260/61/62 or elplinske@staywellguam.com for more information

6 nominees for settlement trustee position

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI government and the parties in Betty Johnson's class action submitted yesterday to the federal court six nominees for the position of a trustee who will run the settlement fund that will be created under the settlement agreement.

Assistant attorney general Reena J. Patel, on behalf of the CNMI government, urged the U.S. District Court for the NMI to select Guam-based Chapter 7 bankruptcy trustee Mark J. Heath as settlement trustee.

Patel said the government feels that Heath is extremely qualified given his financial experience as a bankruptcy trustee.

Attorney Margery Bronster, one of the counsel for Johnson, selected Guam attorney Joyce C. H. Tang of Civille & Tang law firm.

Bronster said the court should consider the law firm as the best possible nominee given the need for a seamless transition, the need to avoid the perils of on-the-job learning that all other candidates would face, Civille & Tang's track record, and absence of any conflicts.

Civille & Tang, through attorney Joseph C. Razzano, is currently the Fund's trustee *ad litem*. Bronster said they understand that Razzano will not be involved if their law firm is appointed as settlement trustee.

Attorneys Bruce Jorgensen and Stephen Woodruff, as other counsels for Johnson, nominated Guam attorney Mitchell F. Thompson of Maher & Thompson law firm, and Hawaii-based attorney and special counsel to Chapter 13 Hawaii bankruptcy trustee William J. Plum of the Plum Law Office.

NMI Retirement Fund board counsels Braddock J. Huesman and Daniel J. Berman nominated former Fund administrator Richard S. Villagomez and Guam-based attorney Michael H. Berman.

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood set the deadline yesterday for submission of a list of nominees. The judge will start the interviews of the nominees on Aug. 31 to Sept. 2.

ICS

From Page 1

Corp. board members disclosed this during its meeting on Wednesday, expressing disappointment with how the government is handling the case.

According to board chair Joaquin Torres, perhaps it's better to start looking for a private lawyer who could do the job of getting back the nearly $200,000 the corporation paid ICS.

"Nothing much had occurred [on the ICS matter]. I've talked to [Attorney General Joey San Nicolas] and it seems there is no move to pursue this case," interim corporation CEO Esther Muña told the board, adding that the case does not seem to be a priority for the OAG.

With great dismay on their faces, vice chair Pete Dela Cruz and chairman Torres pointed out that the nearly $200,000 the corporation is trying to recoup from the company is no small amount for the government to ignore.

"That's $150,000 plus $37,000 [that we want back]. Is that a small amount of money? We should think of hiring a private counsel to pursue this case for us. This is a slum dunk case," said Torres.

According to Allen Hazlip, legal counsel for the corporation board, the investigation is being handled by the OPA—as far as he remembers. He promised to get more information on the matter, including the right accounting from the corporation.

"But this investigation has been over a year now," said Torres.

He directed Muña to set up a meeting with Public Auditor Michael Pai to once and for all know the status of the ICS case.

Pai has yet to comment on the matter.

According to vice chair Pete Dela Cruz, it appears the hospital does not need the money, with they way the issue is being handled. "That's almost $200,000. Seems we're not needing the money," to which Muña responded: "We do need that money."

The ICS secured a six-year sole-source contract with the corporation in February 2012 to do billing and collections for the hospital. Former attorney general Edward T. Buckingham later determined the contract to be costly and unlawful and issued a cease-and-desist order.

The fallout from that failed deal resulted in the sudden termination of the hospital's chief operating officer, James Phillips, as he was the direct contact for the agreement and the matter was referred to the Office of the Attorney General for prosecution. No update, however, has been made since the relocation of Buckingham early this year and since the termination of former CEO Juan N. Babauta.

Saipan Tribune learned that ICS got an advanced payment of $37,000 for work it didn't actually do. It was also learned that the corporation wrongfully deposited about $150,000 to an ICS account in May.

The board earlier called not only for an investigation on the Idaho-based company itself but also on the potential involvement of a corporation director who, based on the board's internal probe, may have had a hand in the company's "illegal" transaction last year.

Last March 11, 2013, Attorney General San Nicolas confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* that there is an ongoing investigation on the ICS contract. At the time, he could not give a timeframe as to when the process will be completed.

GOVERNOR

From Page 1

improving the tourism industry that is expected to continue growing.

Inos has been holding townhall meetings to explain the tentatively approved Fund settlement agreement and to directly answer questions from the crowd. Townhall meetings were a rarity among previous CNMI governors.

Inos said he is not also losing sight of improving the conditions and services of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., Public School System and Northern Marianas College, and other government programs.

The governor said he will be making a formal announcement of his gubernatorial candidacy on his 64th birthday on Sept. 26.

"I am seeking the support of the CNMI people. Together we can do a lot of things to improve the lives of our people," he added.

Besides Inos, the other potential gubernatorial candidates in 2014 are Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) and former speaker Heinz S. Hofschneider.

Months ago, Inos' critics created noise about his ongoing dialysis treatment but the Covenant Party, his supporters, and the administration itself said this has not hampered the governor's ability to lead the CNMI in these trying times.

Previous governors received medical treatment while in office, including Fitial who underwent surgery to correct spinal stenosis and was at times in a wheelchair but continued to govern and managed to get re-elected, among other things.

CAP

From Page 1

Meanwhile, Inos called on members of the Society for Human Resource Management-CNMI Chapter yesterday to "work harder" to employ more U.S. workers to reduce the islands' reliance on foreign workers, who may have to exit the CNMI after Dec. 31, 2014, if the CW program is not extended.

The CNMI government and private sector have asked the U.S. Labor secretary for a five-year extension or up to 2019, to be able to fully prepare U.S. workers to take over most of foreign workers' jobs.

Inos, the guest speaker at the SHRM's monthly meeting at Pacific Islands Club, said government agencies such as the Workforce Investment Agency have also been doing their part to train and prepare U.S. workers for private sector jobs.

"We've got to work harder," he told SHRM. "As SHRM folks, I want you to look for ways to prepare U.S. local citizens gradually so we can reduce reliance on CW workers."

The governor, however, recognized the role CW permit holders or foreign workers play in the CNMI economy.

"If we don't get [CW] extension, we're in trouble. We need to prepare," he said, as he laid out ongoing work and plans to prepare the U.S. worker pool.

He also called on government and private sector entities to "work together" on having more U.S. workers employed.

'Annual cap'

The U.S. law that placed CNMI immigration under federal control requires an annual reduction in the number of CW permits issued until it reaches "zero" by the end of the transition period on Dec. 31, 2014.

However, if and when the CW program is not extended beyond 2014, the CNMI loses immediate access to most of the over 12,000 foreign workers, currently with CW permits.

Inos said tourism arrivals are expected to continue to grow, additional hotel rooms will be back online, related businesses will expand, and new investors are coming in—all pointing to a need for additional workers.

At the SHRM meeting, Inos said a reduction of only about 1,000 in the current 15,000 cap on the number of CW permits will be a "comfortable" level.

In a later interview, Inos said 14,000 to 14,500 CW permits will provide "cushion" for the CNMI in anticipation of an expanded tourism economy.

"My recommendation is to bring it down to that level simply because we've got a lot of [ongoing] projects and we just don't know how many local resources we would have, so we want to have cushion… We don't want to discourage investors or developers from coming in and develop, only to find out they don't have the labor force," Inos said.

He said the federalization law does not allow an increase—only a decrease—in the cap every year.

Message to USCIS

The governor said USCIS Honolulu district director David Gulick had already communicated with him about the reduction in the number of CW permits allowed next year.

Press secretary Angel Demapan separately said yesterday that the governor's recommendation was a 6-percent reduction from 15,000.

"After reviewing the CNMI's needs for transitional workers, the governor has determined that a 6-percent reduction from the 15,000 allocation is reasonable and adequate to take care of the anticipated manpower needs for projected developments in this coming fiscal year," Demapan told *Saipan Tribune*.

The governor also asked Gulick to let him know "when a final determination has been made."

Last year, Gulick made it clear that the 15,000 cap on the number of CW permits for fiscal year 2013 gives room for some 3,000 additional CW workers to accommodate possible economic expansion.

Minimum wage, economy, other issues

The governor told SHRM members that the CNMI economy has been showing promising signs but a lot of work still needs to be done.

One of these areas is in preparing available U.S. workers for private sector jobs that are held mostly by foreign workers or CW permit holders.

Edith Deleon Guerrero, executive director of WIA, said that based on the 2010 U.S. Census, there is an 11.2 percent unemployment in the CNMI. This is higher than the national unemployment rate.

"There's 10,711 not in the labor force based on the 2010 Census," she told SHRM members, referring to those 16 years old and above.

The governor also said if any of the bills now pending in Congress seeking a delay in this year's scheduled 50-cent increase in minimum wage is not passed anytime soon, the minimum wage will go up to $6.05 an hour.

There are only nine legislative calendar days before the Sept. 30 effective date of the minimum wage increase.

Inos said Congress is also faced with major issues such as the U.S. budget, deficit and sequestration.

The governor also answered questions from SHRM members, covering immigration and the economy.

When his turn came to ask, Saipan Chamber of Commerce executive director Richard Pierce told the governor that he is "doing a great job," and the SHRM crowd applauded.

Pierce asked the governor whether the government is doing another prevailing wage survey. Inos said the government is preparing for another one.

Inos also said he will be creating an ad hoc committee composed of government and private sector entities to look deeper into available workforce data to find ways to bring more U.S. workers into the workforce.

Inos, in responding to one of the SHRM members' questions, announced that one of the government buildings on Capital Hill will be turned into a hospitality or tourism training center to help prepare the local workforce to go into the tourism industry.

AYUYU

From Page 1

and Procedures Committee chair Victor Hocog (R-Rota) to discuss his resignation.

The outgoing senator, however, didn't attend yesterday afternoon's session wherein his colleagues accepted his resignation.

At the session, Hocog answered senators' questions about the reason for Ayuyu's new effective date of resignation.

Sept. 30 is the last day of fiscal year 2013. Hocog said between now and Sept. 30, Ayuyu will have ample time to take care of his government affairs, including the turnover of government properties and wrapping up senatorial district matters.

"In other words, he said he will take care of his accountability matters because he doesn't want the government to run after him later on about these matters," Hocog said.

Ayuyu was in jail since Dec. 17, 2012, and was only recently allowed temporary release while awaiting sentencing.

He submitted his one-page resignation letter addressed to the Senate president on Aug. 21, the day when the Rules and Procedures Committee was poised to recommend his expulsion if he didn't submit a resignation letter.

"I would like to thank all members of the 17th and 18th Legislatures for the cooperation and support I have received. It was an honor to serve alongside all members of this Legislature," Ayuyu said in his Aug. 21 letter, an actual copy of which was shared with the media only yesterday.

Right now, the Legislature and the administration are awaiting the court's decision on a certified question as to who will fill the Senate vacancy once Ayuyu's resignation takes effect.

The court answer to that certified question would resolve the issue of whether Gov. Eloy S. Inos should appoint the next vote getter among Rota senatorial candidates in the 2009 or 2012 elections, should a Rota senatorial seat becomes vacant.

Ex-lawmaker Tenorio takes the witness stand

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Former lawmaker Juan I. Tenorio took the witness stand in Superior Court yesterday and denied sexually abusing the girl who now accuses him of molesting her in May 2010 when she was still a minor.

» Defendant denies he sexually abused girl; says he accidentally touched her breast

The 64-year-old Tenorio cried on the stand, stating how the allegations embarrassed him and caused him "great pain and mental anguish."

Tenorio acknowledged accidentally touching the girl's breast with his right hand as he was focused on a mixed martial arts fight on TV and she sat beside him on the couch's arm and had leaned forward.

The former lawmaker also denied allegations that he massaged the girl and touched her privates, saying he never massaged any children except for his son when he massaged his ankle when it had a sprain or had hard muscles due to playing baseball.

Tenorio's lawyer, Robert T. Torres, soon rested the defense's case after his client's testimony.

Associate Judge David A. Wiseman ordered the jurors to return today, Friday, at 9:30am, for the continuation of the trial.

It was not clear whether the prosecution will be allowed to present a rebuttal witness, who is based in the U.S. mainland.

The government rested on Wednesday after assistant attorneys general Margo Brown and Chemere McField called their fourth witness.

Accidental touching

Tenorio testified that he was in the living room and was watching TV around 7pm when the girl sat beside him on the left arm of the couch.

Tenorio said the girl shook his back to ask for money for school snack, but he was not paying attention. He said he told the girl to wait as he was watching the fight and that his right hand accidentally touched her left breast.

He said he saw the child holding her breast.

"I told her, 'I'm sorry. Don't do that next time!'" Tenorio said.

When he told her he would not give her money, Tenorio said the girl turned her back and mumbled something.

Tenorio

In response to Torres' questions, Tenorio denied massaging the girl and touching her privates.

Tenorio stated that after he was charged, he stopped all the things that he had been doing all his life for his family. He paused for a moment, said "excuse me," and then sobbed. Some family members who were in the courtroom were also in tears. His teary-eyed daughter stood up and left the courtroom.

He said he does not visit his family anymore, could not see his friends, and is ashamed when goes to work. "I lost 28 pounds!" he added.

Torres asked him again if he sexually abused the girl.

"No, sir!" the former lawmaker replied.

Before Tenorio, Torres called three witnesses yesterday, including the defendant's 19-year-old daughter.

After the father of the alleged victim completed his testimony yesterday, Torres called to the witness stand their second witness, former police officer Belinda Villanueva.

Villanueva testified that she was assigned at the Department of Public Safety's front desk when the alleged victim and her mother and another female companion came on Dec. 31, 2012, to file a complaint of sexual abuse of a minor against Tenorio.

Villanueva said she took the girl and her mother to a briefing room where she interviewed them.

Villanueva said the girl told her that Tenorio touched her privates at a residence in As Matuis.

In response to Torres' questions, Villanueva said no one from DPS, Division of Youth Services, and Office of the Attorney General took her notes about her interview.

After Villanueva, Torres called to the witness stand Tenorio's daughter and another former police officer.

The girl, who is now 14, testified on Tuesday that Tenorio massaged her and then touched her privates in 2010 when she was just 11.

It was the mother of the girl who reported the alleged sex abuse to DPS, DYS, and OAG after child disclosed the matter to her at a church in Gualo Rai in December 2012.

Tenorio is on trial on charges of sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree, assault and battery, and disturbing the peace.

Judy's SALE!
$3.00 $2.00 $1.00
Long Pants, Jacket, Shoes | All kinds of T-Shirts | Other Clothing's
10:00AM - 7:00PM • MON. - SAT.
Located at Middle Rd, Garapan across Quick Print/Hollywood Videos

PHI Pharmacy
Diabetes Shoppe® Your Partner In Diabetes Care
Good Neighbor Pharmacy®
WE ARE OPEN ON LABOR DAY
SALE Aug. 30 - Sept. 7, 2013 at both locations!
25% Off All OTC Items | 50-75% Off Selected Items
MEDICAID PATIENTS ACCEPTED
Durable Medical Equipment • Hospital Supplies • Diabetes Product
Two Convenient Locations
Navy Hill (CHC) Tel. (670) 323-5000/01 • Fax (670) 323-5011
Mon-Fri: 8am-6pm | Sat & Sun:8am-4pm
Dandan (Joeten) Tel. (670) 235-6170/74 • Fax (670) 235-6180
Mon-Fri: 8am-6pm | Sat: 8am-4pm
PHI Pharmacy...the pharmacy you can trust!

Hunt for permanent doctor for Tinian now over

By Moneth G. Deposa
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

After several months of talks and back-and-forth negotiations, a permanent physician has finally been identified for the Tinian Health Center.

Interim Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. CEO Esther Muña disclosed to the CHCC board of trustees on Wednesday that Dr. James Toskas will start work at the Tinian clinic on Monday, Sept. 2. She said they went ahead with this decision despite the "intervention" of some lawmakers against Toskas' transfer. She did not elaborate.

Dr. Toskas is one of two full-time doctors at the Rota Health Center. His transfer to the Tinian clinic came about after the corporation found great difficulty in getting a permanent physician for the island.

"We did give a notice to Dr. Toskas that he has to start by Monday, Sept. 2, basically right after the holiday. He did mention that unfortunately, he wasn't completely ready. But we have this discussion since July 23 so I told him that the intention is not for him to suffer but we just want to make sure that he moves there. The bottomline is, by Oct 1, he will be completely out of Rota and will be working full time at the Tinian clinic," Muña told the board.

With Toskas's transfer to Tinian, the Rota center will be left with Dr. Francois Claassens as the center's sole physician.

Dr. Frank Pair, at the time the newly hired physician for Tinian, unexpectedly passed away in early January, resulting in the position becoming vacant.

Doctors from the Commonwealth Health Center on Saipan were temporarily assigned to the center from Monday to Friday, with no weekend coverage.

Prior to Pair's appointment, the last permanent doctor on Tinian was Dr. Steven Lebamoff. He resigned in early 2012.

Since then, nurse practitioner Arley Long has been in charge of the delivery of services and has been working all days of the week at the Tinian clinic. She provided diagnosis, treatments, and referred patients to CHC for further tests and evaluation. All emergency cases are referred to Saipan.

The Tinian Health Center, which provides both inpatient and emergency care, has about 30 personnel, including its resident director. These employees include nine nurses, a laboratory technician, an x-ray technician, two pharmacists, two staff for environmental health, one staff for the medical supply office, two for housekeeping, two trade maintenance workers, and three at its accounting unit.

In an earlier interview with THC director William Cing, he said the center, which mostly serves as an outpatient clinic, accommodates about 25 to 30 patients daily. On weekends, an estimated two to four patients usually come in to seek treatment and other services.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Oleai Elementary orientation today

Oleai Elementary School will host a student orientation for school year 2013-2014 for all incoming and continuing students today, Aug. 30, 2013, at 5:30pm in the school cafeteria. Open House for kindergarten to 6th grade will be on Thursday, Sept. 5, 2013, from 4pm to 6pm. Parents and guardians are encouraged to attend these important activities. ***(PR)***

SAES parent orientation today

Registration for school 2013-2014 is ongoing at the San Antonio Elementary School. Registration forms are available at the office. Parent orientation will be held today, Aug. 30, 2013, from 5:30pm to 7pm. Classes will resume on Sept. 3, 2013, Tuesday. The tardy bell will ring at 8am and dismissal will be at 2:30pm. Gates will open 7:15am. New dismissal time for school year will be at 2:30pm. ***(PR)***

UOG enrollment on the rise this fall

Despite national trends of decreasing enrollment rates in higher education, the University of Guam continues to grow. UOG Admissions has reported a 2-percent increase in enrollment over fall 2012, with a current enrollment of 3,770 students for fall 2013. The number of registered students is expected to rise to nearly 3,800 by the end of the week.

In the 2012-2013 academic year, 521 UOG students received their degrees, making it one of the largest graduating classes in UOG history. ***(PR)***

GES calendar of events

Registration is ongoing at the Garapan Elementary School. The new school schedule is as follows:

- Kinder AM session: 8am to 11am
- Kinder PM session: 11:25am to 2:30pm
- 1st to 6th Grade: 8am to 2:30pm

Cafeteria opens to serve breakfast at 7:15am. Applications for free and reduced meals are available at the main office. Students that qualified last school year must apply again for the new school year.

School gates are open at 7:15am. Parents and guardians should refrain from dropping their child(ren) to school before 7:15am.

Open House will be on Wednesday, Sept. 4, from 6pm to 7pm in the school cafeteria. Contact the Main Office at 237-3341 for questions or need for clarifications. ***(PR)***

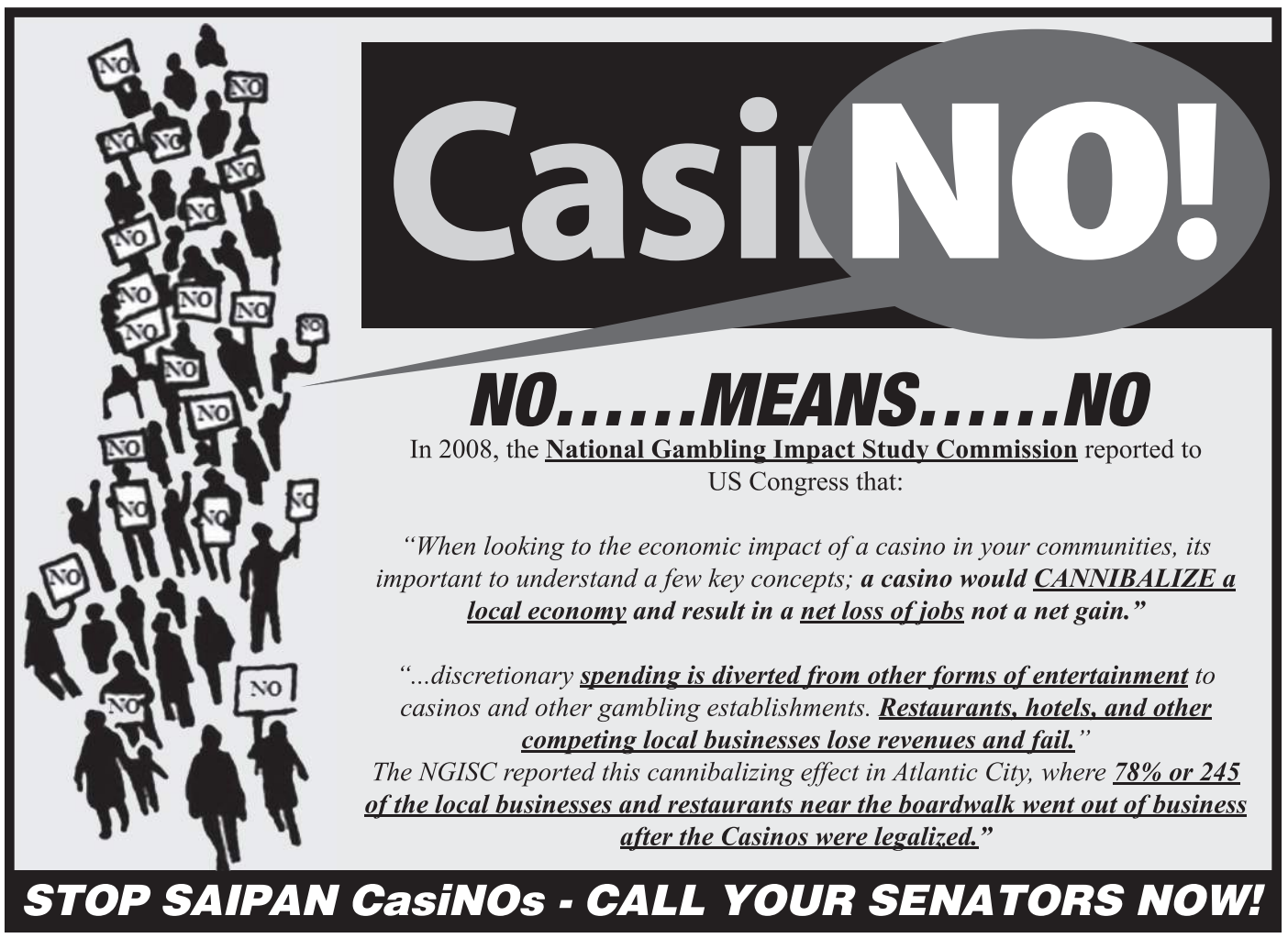
PH consulate general in Guam closed on Monday

The Philippine Consulate General in Guam will be closed on Labor Day this Monday, Sept. 2, 2013. For emergency consular assistance, a duty officer may be contacted at mobile phone 488-4630. ***(PR)***

Tanapag Elementary School calendar

- Aug. 30: Parent/guardian and student orientation for all (Cafeteria), 1st to 6th grade, from 9:45am to 10:45am
- Sept. 2: Labor Day holiday
- Sept. 3: First day of classes

Instruction starts at 8am for all elementary schools. Parents or guardians are asked to have their child or children at school before 8am but not earlier than 7:30am. Bus riders are asked to be at the designated bus stop by 6:55am. Bus pick-up time is 7am. All students will be dismissed at 2:30pm. ***(PR)***


CasiNO!
NO.....MEANS.....NO
In 2008, the National Gambling Impact Study Commission reported to US Congress that:
"When looking to the economic impact of a casino in your communities, its important to understand a few key concepts; a casino would CANNIBALIZE a local economy and result in a net loss of jobs not a net gain."
"...discretionary spending is diverted from other forms of entertainment to casinos and other gambling establishments. Restaurants, hotels, and other competing local businesses lose revenues and fail."
The NGISC reported this cannibalizing effect in Atlantic City, where 78% or 245 of the local businesses and restaurants near the boardwalk went out of business after the Casinos were legalized."
STOP SAIPAN CasiNOs - CALL YOUR SENATORS NOW!

Inos reinstates Labor Day celebration

All roads lead to the Civic Center in Susupe this Sunday when the 2013 Labor Day celebration returns after a long absence.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos reinstated the celebration in collaboration with the Legislature and Judiciary and it starts promptly at 8am.

Inos himself is expected to grace the occasion as well as Senate President Ralph Torres, House Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero, and the presiding and associate judges of the Judiciary.

Aside from fun and active family entertainment activities scheduled for the day and various booths, Parker Yobei, Maggie Naputi, and other bands will provide entertainment.

Inos appointed Manny M. Pangelinan as chairman of the 2013 Labor Day celebration committee and he is joined on the committee by vice chair Bobbie T. Sablan, secretary Lori B. Pinaula, and treasurer Jazmin Lizama. Subcommittee chairs include Frannie T. Salas (entertainment), Linda J. Ayuyu (solicitation), and Joyce Taro (sports).

Pangelinan expressed his deep appreciation to his team at the final planning meeting held last Wednesday, Aug. 28, at the Governor's Office conference room.

He also thanked Inos for his confidence in appointing him to spearhead efforts and hopes this weekend's celebration is a demonstration and culmination of the efforts by all to set aside Sept. 1 to socialize and strengthen camaraderie, reignite hope, and share contributions with the island community.

"The planning committee salutes and appreciates all the many countless donors from officials, leaders, employees, and private businesses for in-kind and/or monetary contributions. The CNMI Labor Day 2013 would not have been possible without the collective desire and partnership of everyone who call our NMI home," said Pangelinan. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

Reprogrammed fund puts Tinian school parking project on hold

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The plan to pave the Tinian Elementary School's parking lot has been put on hold following disclosure that funding allocated for the project has been reprogrammed for other purposes.

Board of Education capital improvement project committee chair Marylou Ada said the $261,000 intended for this project is no longer available for the Public School System.

Ada said the project's funding was supposed to come from the government's CIP funds, which the Tinian Legislative Delegation has to allocate for the project.

Throughout the months that PSS has been working on the project's requirements, which included a survey by the Department of Public Lands, Ada said it was only recently that they found out about the funding problem.

Ada added that even the completed request for proposal for the project has to be put on hold until new funding is identified by the delegation.

"We were under the impression that this project is being funded out of CIP that the delegation has to work with the governor's office to make it happen. We need to clarify with the Executive Branch and the delegation on how they can identify the funds needed for the project," said Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D.

Sablan disclosed that Tinian Elementary's existing parking lot is small and unpaved and it has long been the desire of the Tinian community to see some improvements in the area.

BOE chair Herman T. Guerrero instructed Sablan on Tuesday to write both the delegation and Gov. Eloy S. Inos to ask about what happened to the funds.

Board member Lucy Blanco-Maratita said it's just troubling that PSS was not properly informed about the status of the funds for the project. PSS, it was learned, learned about the funding problem when its CIP coordinator followed up on the project.

Council now accepting nominations for Governor's Humanities Awards

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council is now accepting nominations for the 2013 Governor's Humanities Awards.

This event, held annually in October as a part of CNMI Humanities Month, recognizes outstanding contributions to the humanities by individuals and organizations in the community.

Nominees should have a notable humanities achievement in the past year, as demonstrated in any of the following four categories: Research and Publication in the Humanities; Preservation of Traditional Cultural Practices; Preservation of CNMI History; and Outstanding Humanities Teacher (in both classroom and non-classroom settings).

A fifth category, Lifetime Achievement, recognizes significant contributions to the humanities over multiple decades. This award may be given posthumously.

The 2012 awardees included Dr. Keith L. Camacho, Research and Publication in the Humanities; Tita A. Hocog, Preservation of Traditional Cultural Practices; Tonny Y. Goobad, Preservation of CNMI History; Carmen S. Taimanao and Catherine R. Perry, Outstanding Humanities Teachers; and Agnes M. McPhetres, Lifetime Achievement in the Humanities.

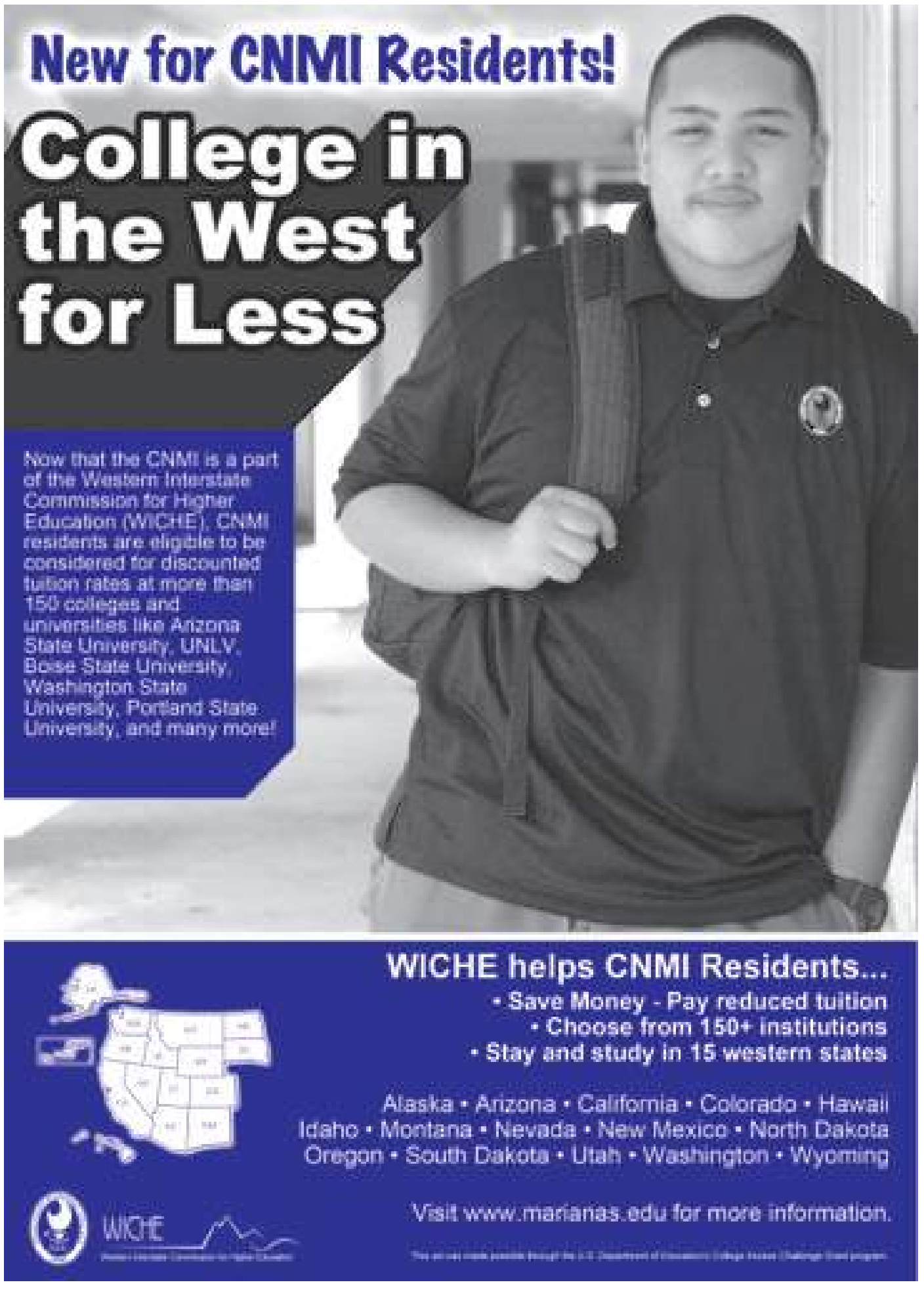
Nomination forms and instructions are available at the council's office in the Springs Plaza Building, Gualo Rai, or on the council website at www.nmihumanities.org.

Nominations may be made by any member of the general public and are due no later than 4:30pm on Friday, Oct. 11.

Awards will be presented during a special ceremony to be held in late October.

For more information, contact council staff at 235-4785. ***(NMI Humanities Council)***

Service Center
Natasha
BACK TO SCHOOL
BIG, BIG SALE
50% | 30%
BAG • SKINNY JEANS • MEN'S PANTS • SHOES
BLOUSES & SHIRTS • CHILDREN CLOTHINGS...AND MORE!
OPERATION HOURS: 9:00AM TO 7:00PM • TEL.: 288-2697
Down Town Market
Marianas Printing
Natasha
Located on Beach Road, Oleai Saipan


New for CNMI Residents!
College in the West for Less
Now that the CNMI is a part of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE), CNMI residents are eligible to be considered for discounted tuition rates at more than 150 colleges and universities like Arizona State University, UNLV, Boise State University, Washington State University, Portland State University, and many more!
WICHE helps CNMI Residents...
• Save Money - Pay reduced tuition
• Choose from 150+ institutions
• Stay and study in 15 western states
Alaska • Arizona • California • Colorado • Hawaii
Idaho • Montana • Nevada • New Mexico • North Dakota
Oregon • South Dakota • Utah • Washington • Wyoming
Visit www.marianas.edu for more information.
WICHE

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM – OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS STATEMENTS for CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES for the TINIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT RFQ13-GOV-163

Governor Eloy S. Inos, and Lieutenant Governor Jude Hoffschneider through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Office, (collectively, "Commonwealth") are soliciting sealed proposals from qualified consultants to provide Construction Management (CM) services for the Tinian International Airport Improvements Project, located on Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Procurement procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001, or latest revision thereof. Public Law 15-95 (Local Preference Act) as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this Federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

Project Construction plans, specifications, and the complete Scope of Work for CM services required will be available on Wednesday, August 28, 2013, at the Governor's CIP Administrator's Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, CNMI. A non-refundable payment of Twenty Five Dollars (US $25.00) is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer, and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the RFQ package at the CIP Office. Questions regarding this RFQ must be submitted in writing to Mr. James R. Stump, CIP Contracting Officer, or fax to (670) 664-2408, no later than 4:00 p.m. ChST Monday, September 2, 2013. Responses to questions shall be shared with all prospective proposers.

Statements of professional qualification from interested firms must address, and will be evaluated on, the following criteria:

A. Overall construction management experience in the Western Pacific Region, and especially in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (20%)
B. Specialized experience and technical competence in the type of work required and previous experience with projects similar in scope (20%)
C. Key personnel's professional qualifications, experience and availability for the proposed services; their professional integrity and competence; and their knowledge of FAA regulations, policies and procedures (20%)
D. Past performance on similar projects, including cost control, ability to meet schedules, and quality of completed construction (20%)
E. Current workload and demonstrated ability to perform the project Scope of Work (20%)

To qualify, firms must have a valid CNMI Business License, and be currently licensed to practice architecture and/or civil or structural engineering in the CNMI. Firms shall also submit an estimate of CM fees based upon a 15-month project schedule (12-month construction plus 3-month close-out). Fee estimates will assist the CIP Office for budgeting purposes, but will not be considered in firm evaluation scores.

Interested firms must submit one (1) original and five (5) copies each of their statements of professional qualifications no later than 4:00 p.m., **Monday, September 30, 2013.**

Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330. Only professionally licensed firms with a valid CNMI business license will be considered.

Discussions shall be conducted with the top three (3) ranked firms. After a selection is made, negotiations will be conducted with the highest qualified firm to determine the final fair and reasonable price of the contract for the work to be performed. The selected firm will be subjected to a responsibility and responsiveness determination in compliance with Section 3-301 of the CNMI Procurement Regulations.

Qualifications statements must be sealed and marked "**RFQ13-GOV-163, Construction Management Services for the Tinian Intenational Airport Improvements Project**". For proposers within the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of the qualifications statement must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, MP, no later than 4:00 p.m. ChST, **Monday, September 30, 2013**. Proposers located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to Propose must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 4:00 p.m. ChST, Monday, September 30, 2013, and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of the sealed qualifications statement must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **September 30, 2013**, and must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **October 7, 2013 ChST**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies of the proposal may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so would be in the best interests of the CNMI government. All proposals shall become the sole property of the CNMI government.

/s/ Eloy S. Inos,
Governor

/s/ Herman S. Sablan,
Director of Procurement & Supply

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
August 1, 2013

Pursuant to Public Law 18-12, Section 3, Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofschneider, through the Board of Directors of the Commonwealth Development Authority (CDA), propose to issue Pension Obligation Bonds, the proceeds of which shall be used by the Government of Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), to fund the payment of the Commonwealth Government's obligation to the Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund. CDA is an autonomous agency that has the statutory authority under CNMI Public Law 4-49, to issue pension obligation bonds in the CNMI.

CDA is requesting proposals from qualified firms to serve as its bond underwriter for the proposed financing. Proposals shall be submitted to:

Commonwealth Development Authority
P.O. Box 502149
Saipan, MP 96950
Email Address: administration@cda.gov.mp

no later than 4:00 p.m., September 3, 2013 Chamorro Standard Time (ChST). Copies of the RFP package may be obtained from the CDA office, CDA Building in San Jose, Saipan. Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Manuel A. Sablan, Executive Director at telephone nos. 234-7145/7146/6293/6245, ext. 311. The CDA reserves the right to reject any proposal that in its sole determination is not in the best interest of the CNMI Government.

/s/ Pedro I. Itibus
Chairman, Board of Directors

Monument advisory council meeting set

Those who are pining for information on what's happening with the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument don't have to wait any longer as the monument's advisory council will have a meeting next month on Saipan.

The meeting of the Marianas Trench Monument Advisory Council, or MTMAC, will be held on Sept. 12, from 8:30am to 4pm at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's Chamolinian Room.

The public is invited to attend the meeting and will have an opportunity to comment from 4pm to 5pm.

Members of the MTMAC and agency representatives from National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will be available to answer questions and provide more information on the planning process for the monument.

In Jan. 6, 2009, President Bush issued Presidential Proclamations 8335, 8336, and 8337, collectively creating the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument, Rose Atoll National Monument, and the Marianas Trench National Monument.

The monument includes no dry land, but protects 95,216 square miles (60,938,240 acres) of submerged lands and waters in various places in the Mariana archipelago.

The U.S. government was able to act under international law and U.S. law to create this marine national monument, since the U.S. controls the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Guam, which act as the land (island) boundaries of the oceanic zones which form the monument's protected areas of ocean waters and submerged lands (ocean beds).

The Secretary of Commerce, through the NOAA, has primary management responsibility for fishery-related activities in the waters of the Islands Unit. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

Registration for ukulele class extended to Sept. 11

The registration for the 2013 Summer Ukulele Lessons at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library has been extended to Sept. 11. The ukulele class, which is from Sept. 12 to Oct. 31, is open to children 8 years or older and adults and encompasses eight hours. It costs $50 and will be held from 4pm to 5:30pm every Thursday. Registration is on a first-come, first-paid basis and students must provide their own ukuleles and a folder to hold music sheets. Those without instruments can also borrow one from the library, free of charge. For more information about the 2013 summer ukulele class, visit the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library in Susupe or call 235-7316 or 235-7322-23, Fax 235-7550. ***(PR)***

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

August 30, 2005

Deadline bears down on PTI deal

If Verizon fails to get the consent of the Marianas Public Lands Authority in the transfer of leases from Micronesian Telecommunications Corp. to Pacific Telecom Inc. by today, the companies will have no choice but to defer the closing of the multi-million-dollar telecom deal. The Commonwealth Telecommunications Commission had set tomorrow, Aug. 31, as the deadline for the companies to close the sale. "I think that, if it becomes clear that there's going to be no agreement between Verizon and the MPLA in the next 24 hours, I think we will have to ask for a deadline extension," said PTI president Jose Ricardo P.R. Delgado in a telephone interview yesterday. "Until Verizon is able to get that consent, we can't close."

Collision leads to fatal mauling

Police arrested on Thursday a Palauan man who allegedly mauled to death another man last Aug. 6 after both of them figured in a vehicular collision on Middle Road, Garapan, across the Commonwealth Health Center. The victim, also a Palauan, died at the hospital Thursday night. Police said an autopsy on the victim's body would be conducted. Acting Department of Public Safety spokesman Eric F. David did not disclose the victim's identity, but described him as a 34-year-old resident of San Roque. David also described the victim's initials as TBA. In a statement released yesterday, David said police arrested the suspect in the fatal mauling on Aug. 15.

August 30, 2006

Cuts in scholarship funds

The CNMI Scholarship Office is reducing the amount of its grant awards to cope with declining funding. The new budget plan proposes 21-percent cut to the funding of the Scholarship Office. From an annual budget of $4.23 million over the past four years, the Scholarship Office will receive only $3.37 million in fiscal year 2007. According to Scholarship Office director Merissa Mae Seman, the agency has lowered grant amounts to ensure that all qualified applicants get financial assistance in their studies.

GHLI to add $1.10 to premium

After raising the premium rate for the Group Health Insurance program by up to 52 percent earlier this year, the NMI Retirement Fund is proposing to further increase this by $1.10, citing negotiations that fell through with contractor Pharmacare. In a public notice dated July 1, 2006, the Fund proposed to amend the rules and regulations governing the GHI program "to revise the drug formulary by implementing the drug formulary of its third party administrator, Aetna Global Benefits." This amendment "would increase employee premiums under Article 10, section 10.5, by an additional $1.10 for pharmaceutical services to be provided by Aetna due to the falling through during contract negotiations between the program and Pharmacare for pharmacy benefits management."

August 30, 2007

Gap between US and local education spending widens

The Public School System has reported a widening gap between local education spending and the national average. In fiscal year 2006, the Commonwealth spent $5,618 on each public school student, according to financial and statistical data that PSS submitted to auditors in May 2007. The CNMI spending is 40 percent lower than the U.S. average, which was $9,401 per child. Last year's figures also showed the largest gap between the local and federal average in the past 10 years.

Govt projects FY08 revenue at $160M

The Commonwealth expects to collect just a little over $160 million in revenues next fiscal year, but outside funding sources may stretch the government budget by over $8 million, according to the administration's top budget official. Antonio Muna, the governor's special assistant for management and budget, said the revenue estimate for FY 2008 is $160.1 million. But Compact-Impact funds and other local funds may allow the government to spend beyond this amount. Every year, the CNMI receives $5.17 million from the federal government for the costs of migration by citizens of Micronesian states that signed the Compacts of Free Association with the United States. This program started in 2004 and will continue through 2008.

7 from CNMI to present at Guam history conference

The CNMI will be well represented at the 2nd Marianas History Conference that will start today at the University of Guam in Mangilao, Guam.

The two-day conference has adopted the theme "One Archipelago, Many Stories: Integrating Our Narratives" and a total of 51 papers and posters on Marianas history will be presented.

Northern Marianas Humanities Council executive director Scott Russell said there will be seven presenters from the Commonwealth: archeologist John S. Castro; University of California, San Diego doctorate candidate Jessica Jordan; 12th Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council chair Ramon B. Camacho and councilman Diego C. Kaipat; architect Herman B. Cabrera; San Vicente Elementary School bilingual teacher Maria M. Takai; and Northern Marianas College instructor Guadalupe C. Borja-Robinson.

The latter two were part of the 40-hour history research workshop organized by the Humanities Council last May. The workshop was conducted by UOG history professor Dr. Anne Perez Hattori.

Hattori, together with recent Saipan visitor Dr. Keith L. Camacho, will serve as keynote speakers of the conference.

Hattori will present "Chamorro Barmaids, Congressmen, and the 21st Century Doings of Marianas History" at 8:30am on Saturday, Aug. 31, at the UOG Fine Arts Theater.

Hattori, familian Titang, joined the faculty of UOG in 1999 and is a professor of history and Chamorro studies.

Camacho will present "Militarized Incarceration: The U.S. Navy's War Crimes Tribunals Program of Guam, 1945-1949" at 8:30am tomorrow, Aug. 30, also at the UOG Fine Arts Theater.

Camacho is an associate professor of Pacific Islander Studies in the Asian American Studies Department of the University of California, Los Angeles. Camacho received his B.A. in English from the University of Guam, and a master's in Pacific Islands Studies and a Ph.D. in History (with distinction) from the University of Hawaii.

The 2nd Marianas History Conference will also cover a full range of topics associated with the archipelago's history under the following categories: Ancient History; Early Colonial (17th-18th centuries); Late Colonial (19th-early 20th centuries); World War II; Recent (post-war); and Oral History and Genealogical Research. The general categories correspond to the 1st Marianas History Conference.

In addition to papers, posters that address the conference theme and/or topics will be exhibited through the second day of the conference.

Russell said the Humanities Council provided a $500 stipend to each of the speakers from the CNMI, which will cover their airfare and hotel accommodations. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

BANK DONATION CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Bank of Guam lends its support to MTEC and the Docomo Pacific Golf Classic with a $1,000 donation. Bank of Guam executives Marcie Tomokane, second from left, presents the donation to Docomo Pacific's Pauline Johnson. The tournament will be held on Saturday, Aug. 31, at the Mariana Country Club.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Attention IT&E Subscribers!

IT&E Chalan Laulau will be

OPEN ON LABOR DAY

for your convenience on Monday, September 2nd from 8am – 4:30pm

Make payments, get phones, sign up for landline or high-speed DSL on your day off!

For more information, call 682-4483.

IT&E Life in Motion

LABOR DAY SALE

FRIDAY, AUGUST 30, 2013 - 2 TO 6 P.M.
SATURDAY, AUGUST 31, 2013 - 8 TO 12 P.M.

25% OFF
Furniture, Whirlpool Appliances, Power & Hand Tools, Plumbing, Electrical, Selected Hardware, Paint Sundries (ex. Rollers/Brushes/Roller Covers excluding paint), Lawn & Garden, Pet Supplies (excluding Dog Food), Automotive, Cleaning Supplies & Housewares.

ACE BEST BUYS

15% OFF
Garden Power Tools, Air Compressor, Generator, Pressure Washer, Bed sets & Mattress/foundation.

10% off Chain Saws

Some items not discountable / Sale items not included (Lumber, Building Materials, Water pump, Water Heater and etc.)

ACE The Helpful Place!®

- Except Sale Items
- Cash and Carry
- Some items not discountable
- No rain checks
- Delivery charge $10.00
- Credit card acceptable
- In stock merchandise only

We accept major credit cards

LOCATIONS - Saipan & Rota

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXIII, Issue No. 173

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER
The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Nerve gas attack in Syria calls for US response

Behind closed doors in Washington, President Barack Obama and his advisers are planning a strike against Syrian dictator Bashar al-Assad. Assad's Aug. 21 nerve gas attack against his own people, which Secretary of State John Kerry called "undeniable," cannot stand.

The U.S. must respond. But it must act in concert with other nations, reflecting the massive violation of international norms this horror represents. And it must temper Americans' expectations for the result.

If we've learned nothing else in more than a decade of war in the Middle East, it's that the U.S. cannot impose democracy and must face the fact that in some conflicts, there may be no good outcome. The aim here is to show that the world will not tolerate a government committing unspeakable crimes against its people.

The New York Times on Tuesday published a reconstruction of the attack that killed at a minimum hundreds of people, including many children: "Thousands of sick and dying Syrians had flooded the hospitals in the Damascus suburbs before dawn, hours after the first rockets landed, their bodies convulsing and mouths foaming. Their vision was blurry and many could not breathe."

The aftermath was described in excruciating detail, with medical workers trying to figure out how to store piles of corpses in the heat and Syrians desperately searching for loved ones.

More than 100,000 people are estimated to have died in the 2-year-old civil war, and millions more have been injured or turned into refugees. Through it all, including reports of smaller chemical weapons attacks, Obama refused to be drawn in: The right outcome for U.S. interests, or even Syrians' in the long run, has been unclear. Obama wisely has narrowed the scope of U.S. entanglement in the Middle East, understanding better than his predecessor our limited ability to change the political direction of the region.

But Assad's massacre of civilians is different. As Kerry said Tuesday, "This is about the large-scale indiscriminate use of weapons that the civilized world long ago decided must never be used at all, a conviction shared even by countries that agree on little else."

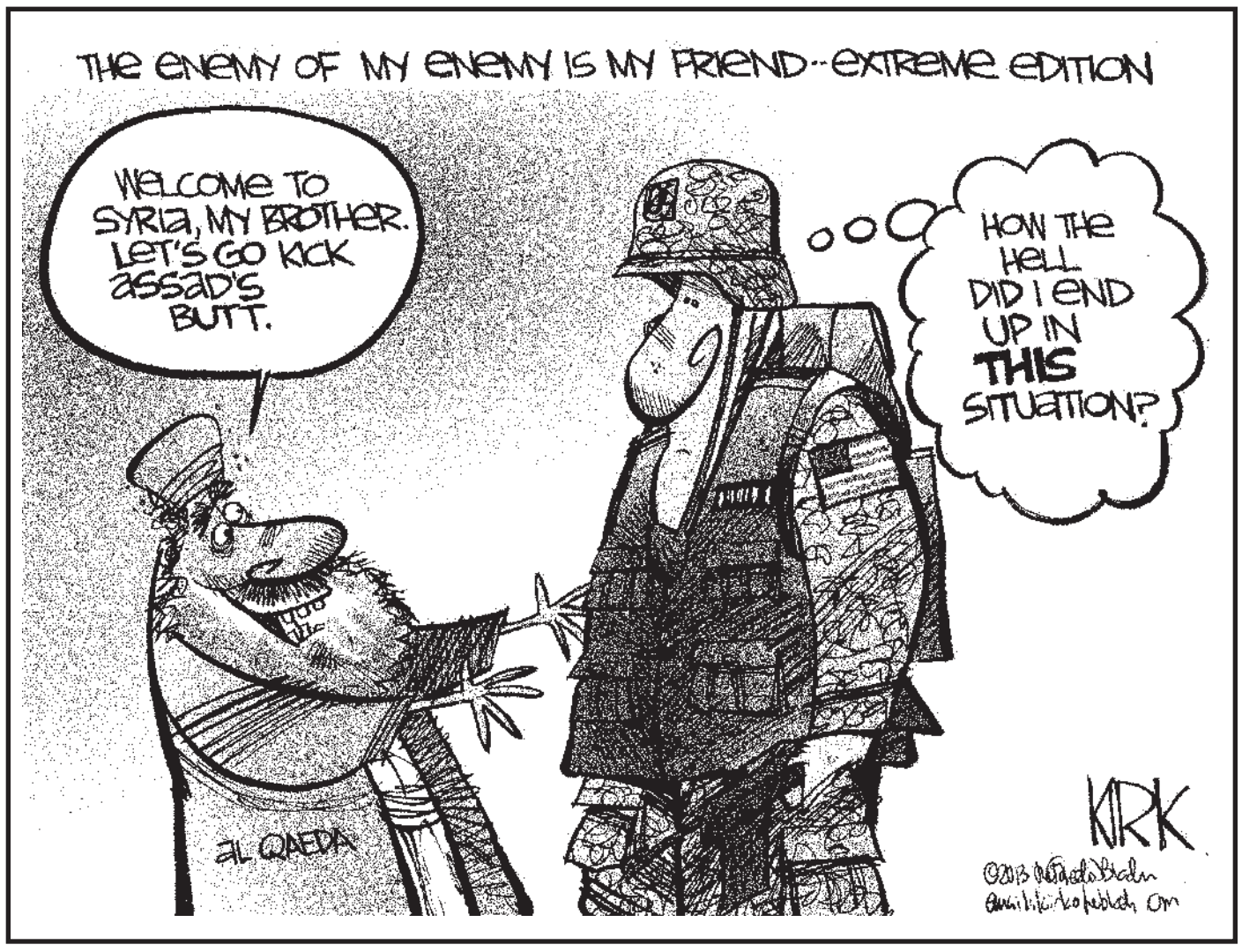
Obama reportedly is considering launching attacks from the sea on military units directly connected to the massacre. That kind of limited but forceful response could make Assad think twice before repeating his crime against humanity.

But the chances of a positive outcome are vastly greater if America does not go it alone.

Russia and China have veto power in the United Nations, so it is unlikely to act. But the Arab League on Tuesday provided crucial Middle Eastern backing for a Western response, announcing that it blamed Assad for the gas attack. It joins more predictable supporters, Britain and France.

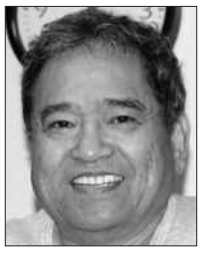
With enough support, including from Arab nations, it's appropriate for the United States to lead.

©2013 San Jose Mercury News (San Jose, Calif.)


THE ENEMY OF MY ENEMY IS MY FRIEND--EXTREME EDITION
WELCOME TO SYRIA, MY BROTHER. LET'S GO KICK ASSAD'S BUTT.
HOW THE HELL DID I END UP IN THIS SITUATION?
AL QAEDA
KIRK

End of August

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune



Jaime R. Vergara (jrvergarajr2031@aol.com) is a former PSS teacher and is currently writing from the campus of Shenyang Aerospace University in China.

Our *er lao po,* mother two autistic children who turned 18 and 21 this year, hits the big six-oh tomorrow, but since the 31st is a Saturday, this shall be the end of August writing for ST for me. At least, it spares us from meditating again on the heavy emotional toll that got *er lao po* with our two kids and I separated halfway across the planet during turbulent winds that shafted a marriage eons ago.

Karen Ann sings *The End of May,* one of the songs that students invariably mention in their profile as a song they are familiar with, or would not mind learning. Karen Ann attempts to be down-to-earth to

Close your eyes and roll a dice
Under the board there's a compromise
If after all we only live twice
Which life's the run road to Paradise.

It is still, however, a bit escapist in the "live twice" dream.

Unfortunately, the other version by Michael Bubble fares no better:

Golden haze, another morning feels like yesterday.
End of May, a year is gone and I still feel this way,
When we meet again, I'll ask you how you're doing
And you'll say fine and ask me how I'm doing
And then I'll lie and I'll say, it's just an ordinary day.

While *The End of May* is (are) my students' song(s), we might let our hair down and pen our own song; call it, *The End of August.* Nah. That would be too corny.

We are in the final installment of our prolonged exit from this page, and bid *adieu* to the sparkling waters of Saipan (the ocean, not what trickles from aquifers) as well. We dragged luggage to Ada International two years ago, and our shadow had not been seen since.

I shifted to the exit mode the first of August, and during the whole month, our bidding a permanent farewell loomed big on our consciousness. Add August as our personal autism month and we can say that we had our mental luggage rack full lately.

But our pieces have been focused content-wise, in addition to its contextual education intent, to earthly issues and current events. Our end of August should not be different.

We note the rape of a female photojournalist intern in Mumbai and how it is that the patriarchal arrogance in our society, global and local, still prevails. There might be a difference in degree but not in kind—in Mumbai and Shanghai, Chicago and Tokyo, Lima and Manila, and alas, even Shenyang and Pyongyang. Defensive and condescending males reign.

The Pentagon, bastion of entrenched machismo, reeling from cases of sexual harassment, will now have to deal with a new issue as erstwhile Bradley has become Chelsea Manning. She now requires the hormone therapy in jail that was denied while active in the armed forces. With the LGTB community finally getting the official and legal attention it deserves, a nail on patriarchy's supercilious conceit (redundancy intentional) is welcome.

This brings us to the hypocrisy revealed in how we treat Texas senator Ted Cruz' Canadian citizenship.

No surprise here. Our eldest child was born in Manila but having a U.S. citizen mother, there was no problem registering her as a naturally born American. Technically, she had dual citizenship. Younger sister was born in Saskatoon, Canada, and when it was time to get a passport that she needed to travel at 1 year old, the Philippine and U.S. ones cost three times more than the Canadian. Technically of triple citizenship, she crossed the border with the maple leaf. Our family entered the U.S. through Honolulu later. I was asked by INS to appear at the Federal Building in Chicago for bringing in an unidentified alien into the country. Her passport did not bear any record of parentage, Papa or Mama, and we were duly accused of having a low regard for the federal laws of the country.

Both my daughters are American citizens, plus. Ted Cruz is, of course, an American, plus Texan, etc. And Obama is Ethiopian! Get it?

Our last noticing is with Channel News Asia of Singapore doing speculative reporting on the Bo Xilai trial in China. We do not mind editorializing but when it parades as news, portrays a kangaroo court, and furthers the image of Beijing as a bunch of scheming Fu Manchus, then something else is going on. We do know that already, Pagan's future is a done deal in the U.S. strategic policy of containing China (she with a navy that has one Russian discarded but refurbished bathtub for her lone cruise carrier!) What we can discern is that the politics of oil that led the CIA (finally fessed up 60 years later) to banish *Time* magazine's 1952 Man-of-the-Year Mohammed Mosaddegh out of Iran has just shifted into China's continental shelf. Mind you, it is all Obama-the-Ethiopian's fault!

Our picture of our exit sans ceremony is clear. Ed Stephens of this page who we met once in an As Lito bar settles his canvas chair on the lagoon's shore in his regular Thursday relax time after sending off his Friday column. I join him on my stool. He greets me with a lifted English stout, and I respond in kind with my *cerveza.* In a non-verbal toast, we nod as if to say: "It's a good day, and I am happy to be here."

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Oil prices in paradise

By ED STEPHENS
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed at EdStephensJr.com. His column runs every Friday.

Every so often, Kim Kardashian gets pushed off newspaper front pages by other stuff. When that happens I roll my eyes, heave a sigh of exasperation, and wonder what the heck is going wrong with the world.

Then I check oil prices.

And, guess what? This time around, they're up.

They're not up by much, mind you, but they're up nonetheless. Oil went up 3 percent yesterday. And it went up 3 percent the day before yesterday. This was enough to push it to a two-year high and, of course, this coincides with the latest round of news about Middle East affairs.

Oil remains a triple-digit proposition, with the benchmark West Texas Intermediate crude priced at $109.01 a barrel.

If you'd like me to ruin your day, I'll note that oil is over three times what it cost at the end of 2008; in December of that year, it actually dipped to $30.28 a barrel.

But since then it has pretty much climbed straight up. I say "pretty much" because there is some zig-zag in the price, but the overall trend is hard to miss.

On Saipan, the cheapest regular unleaded gasoline I'm aware of was $4.959 as of yesterday morning, at least at the two places I checked. If local gas prices echo the recent move in oil prices, then the big, fat $5 threshold is upon us. Unless there's some immediate slump in oil prices, we might be in for some more pain at the pump.

I could pry open a few choice observations about the CNMI's approach to energy use, or the lack of such an approach. Or I could get pretty fancy about the economics of oil, and I've done so in the past. But today I'm in the long-weekend mode, so I'm going to slump down in my beach chair and just shoot the breeze about gas.

I can't change gas prices, so I just try to keep the cars full of fuel, and I try to appreciate what the stuff does for me in the first place. That's no cure, but it's a salve.

I've always been old school about gassing up. As my grandmother used to say, "Always drive off the top of the tank."

One benefit of this approach is that it minimizes the pain I feel at the pump, since I usually only need to buy a half tank to get me back to full. That's illusory savings, of course, since I'm filling up more often, but for some reason it seems easier to take two $50 jabs than a single $100 haymaker. In fact, my approach is probably more costly, since it involves more starting cycles on the engine and it incurs more time lost at the gas station, but I just accept these facts, since a triple-digit gasoline tab does bad things to my blood pressure.

Many mechanics have told me that it's better to drive off a full tank than an empty one, since a full tank dilutes the contaminants in the system. I'm inclined to believe this since it sounds sensible, but I have no way of proving it.

Over 20 years ago, one of the things that I first realized about Saipan was that in spite of the small dimensions of the island, I drove a lot of miles. After a few months of adjusting my fuel budget (upwards) for that factor, I realized it was a blessing. After all, there's a lot to do on Saipan, a lot to see, and a lot of places to go.

Everybody on Saipan has their favorite little spots, their secret little nooks, and their magic little hideaways. You can reach any one of them for just a few bucks worth of gas. For people in the mainland, by contrast, these notions are the stuff of tropical fantasy, notions that many of them never get to indulge even once in their entire lives.

So, while I don't like high fuel price, I'm mindful of the fact that we only live once, and if we're going to burn fuel, then Saipan is a pretty darned good place to do it.

Meanwhile, the fuel costs embedded in electricity bills are an even bigger concern, and this realm isn't such a happy one. Saipan's sweatbox houses are a legacy from an old, and outdated, outlook, and they require a lot of electricity to feed them. There are probably some good ways to address this situation, but that's a topic for a different day.

Until then, I just hope Ms. Kardashian resumes her rightful place on the front page. Then life can return to normal.

Holding feds to their words

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*

We retreat to the quiet corner of our minds trying to make sense of the moronic mess in Washington. At day's end, we're convinced the entire Washington town has lost its true north.

Take a glimpse at polls how fellow Americans rate Obama's economic performance. It has slipped to 56 percent while Congress received a stinging 82 percent disapproval.

In other words, Washington has ignored the voice of the American people who yearn for economic opportunities, founded and nurtured by first principles. Washington simply insulated itself, including an exemption against the horrendously costly Obamacare while the rest of citizenry must deal with it. Call it federal bullying unprecedented in U.S. history.

With this in mind, imagine how we've fared situated remotely from mainstream US of A. Does it matter to Washington how its federalization policies annihilated or completely destroyed fragile island economies?

I'm not peddling a view. You be the judge by doing due diligence, chronicling what went wrong or right in paradise. Such decision robs the feds of its credibility. As if the destruction isn't enough, we doubled up scorching what's left of the economy with piles of fees and taxes.

Revisiting the 'Dream'

Ironically, it was this month some 50 years ago when the most famous iconic message "I Have A Dream" was eloquently articulated by the late Dr. Martin Luther King. In the fight for freedom, equality, and justice Dr. King said: "In a sense we've come to our nation's capital to cash a check. When the architects of our republic wrote the magnificent words of the Constitution and Declaration of Independence, they were signing a promissory note to which every American was to fall heir."

"This note was a promise that all men, yes, black men as well as white men, would be guaranteed the 'Unalienable Rights' of 'Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.' It is obvious today that America has defaulted on this promissory note, insofar as her citizens of color are concerned. Instead of honoring this sacred obligation, America has given the Negro people a bad check; a check that has come back marked "insufficient funds."

"But we refuse to believe that the bank of justice is bankrupt. We refuse to believe that there are insufficient funds in the great vaults of opportunity of this nation. And so we've come to cash this check, a check that will give us upon demand the riches of freedom and the security of justice.

"We have also come to this hallowed spot to remind America of the fierce urgency of Now. This is no time to engage in the luxury of cooling off or to take the tranquilizing drug of gradualism. Now is the time to make real the promises of democracy. Now is the time to rise from the dark and desolate valley of segregation to the sunlit path of racial justice. Now is the time to lift our nation from the quicksands of racial injustice to the solid rock of brotherhood. Now is the time to make justice a reality for all of God's children."

Whether we refuse acknowledging the drain on the bank of justice, it is clear that the concept of "gradualism" is part and whole of how the feds extend justice to these isles. Reality clearly sets the truth that it has been and continues to be a scheme of "divide and conquer." As citizens situated in the periphery, we often quiz whatever happened to our "unalienable rights" of "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness?"

A constitutionally protected pension

Though it is understood the fiscal posture of the NMI amidst significant drop in revenue, there's still the issue of fidelity to the rule of constitutional law included in the local Constitution, protecting against diminishing retirees' pension.

In other words, the only way it could be scrapped is through a voter-approved initiative. This hasn't happened. Thus it tells us two things upfront:

1.) Nobody is authorized to reduce pension for retirees given that local pension is constitutionally protected.

2). The court's intervention would have the equivalence of judicial overreach. Its role is limited to interpreting the constitutionality of pension protection provision that isn't an issue before it.

In short, the governor is prohibited from any arbitrary reduction in retirees' pension. The court is equally prohibited from approving any settlement agreement that is in violation of a constitutionally protected pension from the outset. Are we clear on this score?

Furthermore, "a government employee can have his wages reduced, be required to pay more for his health benefits, or even be laid off, but the structure of his retirement benefits cannot be altered from the moment he enters public service."

Of course, retirees who've opted to follow the settlement agreement feel cornered like beaten dogs. Many are pondering the willful agenda and infinite wisdom of so-called leadership to recklessly destroy the solvency of the Fund. Well, let's see if they can fix the mess with more failed promises of "better times." It's something to remember as we sift through the hardship we had to endure since recent past.

■■■

A Chamoru group performed in Taiwan in recent past. It showed its fabricated Chamorro indigenous chant that has no ties with Chamorro ancestral history. It's pure fabrication! The fun part of the show was after the performance when a member of the audience asked if the group came from Africa!

But then it's the net result of cultural fabrication for the want of money. Or is it a case of gradual "re-acculturation" after years of complete adoption of another's cultural ways? Does it grant the superficially anointed master of local arts and culture to fabricate chants and dances that are basically a violation of cultural tradition?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A return to family values

Whenever an event is held at the MHS Gymnasium, the echo inside that facility is too often deafening, and one has to either vacate the venue or persevere with the discomfort of the situation. Using this metaphor as a backdrop to the discussion of "family values" is essential here to point out the elusiveness of our thoughts and perception about what is "family" and the meaning or importance of "value" we are called to return to.

How true it is for a mother telling a son that even though all his siblings came out from the same womb, when it comes to material wealth, these conditions separate each from the other and those situations indeed do make a difference.

A close friend of mine was quick to describe a dysfunctional family. "How so?" I asked. I garnered key words from our oral exchanges such as: *machalapun, baba, lachi, man utlibis, ti matangu hafa machocho gui, bula babarias, man hiningat ni tentasion*, and other similar phrases. Life examples like these demonstrate our perception about the dynamics of the concept of "family values" and would continue to intrigue knowledge seekers of this important subject.

In the words of Leo Tolstoy: "All happy families resemble one another, each unhappy family is unhappy in its own way." The same holds true as put by John Donne: "A state subsists in part by keeping their weaknesses from being known, so is it the quiet of families to have their chancery and their parliament within doors, and to compose and determine all emergent differences there." In this sense, a family unit is an ongoing enterprise and a social organization in itself.

What makes a "family"? In present days, the family has often been redefined as being almost any group of people in a pseudo-household, even if its sole purpose is for the enjoyment of personal company. A "nuclear family" as often suggested by non-traditionalists need carry no responsibility for the next generation. In this setting, a family could be put together in almost any shape, be broken at will, and its sole values can be those of each individual.

On the other hand, a family that follows social norms gives it justified dimension and importance as a nucleus of civilization. The family is recognized as the heart and center from which every institution emanates. And, following the spiritual objective and social rationalization about a family, its existence is to produce and civilize the next generation. The priority of family is to nurture the new life that has been produced, training and equipping each child for the

See RETURN on Page 13

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼76°	▲88° ▼76°	▲88° ▼76°	▲88° ▼76°	▲88° ▼76°

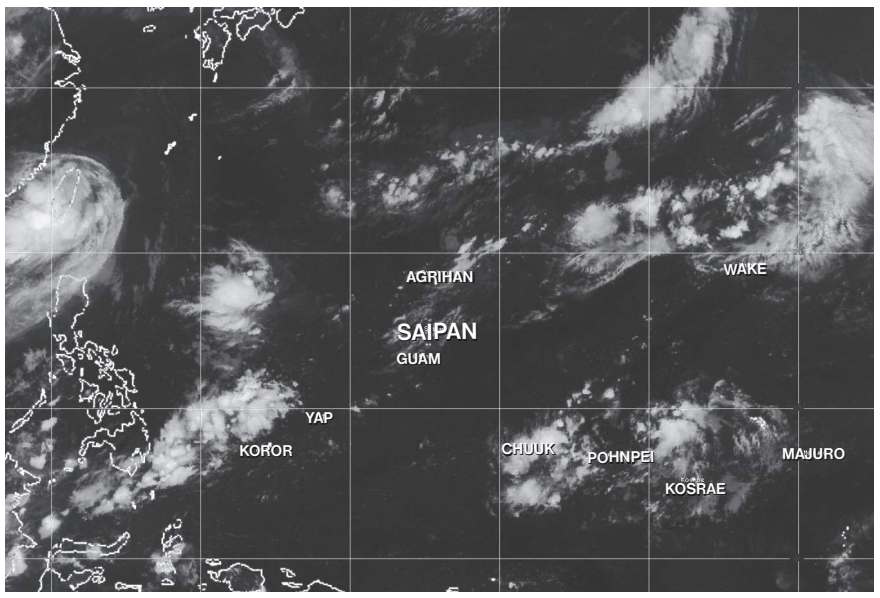
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Mostly Sunny	▲87	▼78
Palau	Showers	▲85	▼75
Yap	Showers	▲88	▼76
Chuuk	Showers	▲88	▼76
Pohnpei	Showers	▲87	▼74
Kosrae	Showers	▲87	▼74
Majuro	Sunny	▲85	▼79

Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲59	▼49
Beijing	Sunny	▲84	▼60
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲86	▼81
Honolulu	Showers	▲88	▼75
London	Partly Cloudy	▲73	▼61
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	▲87	▼69
Manila	Thundershowers	▲92	▼78
Melbourne	Sunny	▲72	▼53
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲90	▼78
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲82	▼70
Osaka	Thundershowers	▲91	▼79
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲77	▼56
Pusan	Thundershowers	▲84	▼72
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼65
Salem	Mostly Sunny	▲82	▼59
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲72	▼60
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲82	▼66
Tokyo	Windy	▲94	▼81
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲87	▼70

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, AUGUST 29, 2013
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough enters the discussion area near 21N130E and goes through a circulation located west of the Marianas near 18N135E and continues to 22N139E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms can be found south of the trough between 15N and 19N from 130E to 135E. A surface trough extends from 5N130E to 13N138E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms were located west of Palau and Yap between the trough axis and 130E. Another surface trough stretches from 4N156E to 10N168E to 11N180E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms associated with the trough can be found across Chuuk and Pohnpei states and Kwajalein between 6N and 10N from 150E to 168E. Low-level wind flow convergence is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms north of Wake Island between 20N and 24N from 150E to 175E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

2:24 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet
10:13 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
5:40 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.5 Feet
10:33 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:04 AM	6:31 PM
Saturday	6:04 AM	6:30 PM
Sunday	6:05 AM	6:29 PM
Monday	6:05 AM	6:29 PM
Tuesday	6:05 AM	6:28 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	11:52 PM	1:01 PM
Friday	12:39 AM	1:49 PM
Saturday	1:28 AM	2:35 PM
Sunday	2:17 AM	3:20 PM
Monday	3:55 AM	4:45 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 10, 2013

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5
UA5068	8:35am	9:25am	Daily
UA5074	11:20am	12:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:55pm	7:45pm	Daily
UA5072	9:45pm	10:35pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
0Z1077	4:50am	7:10am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:25pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO)			
DL583	5:50am	8:30am	2, 5, 6
SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)			
0Z119	4:00am	6:40am	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)			
0Z608	3:10am	6:20am	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
0Z606	2:20am	6:00am	1
0Z606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
0Z612	3:40am	7:20am	Daily
0Z119	4:00am	11:20am	Daily via KIX
0Z604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)			
MU764	4:10am	8:00am	1, 5
SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6
SAIPAN-KHABAROVSK (KHV)			
SYL9950	6:40pm	1:30am+1	7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
0Z606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
0Z606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	6 via GUM
UA5062/191	4:50am	9:55am	3 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:05pm	Daily via NRT
UA5068/PR111	8:35am	4:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
US5074/PR111	11:20am	4:35pm	1, 5, 7 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
0Z604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
0Z606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
0Z606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
0Z604/745	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA5073	10:00am	10:50am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:35pm	6:25pm	Daily
UA5079	8:20pm	9:10pm	Daily
GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5062	2:40am	3:15am	1, 3, 5
UA5038	10:10am	10:45am	6
ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA5062	3:45am	4:20am	1, 3, 5
UA5038	11:15am	11:50am	6
NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL288	8:55pm	1:30am+1	Daily
0Z1087	10:00pm	2:25am+1	2, 3, 5, 6
NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN			
DL582	8:30pm	1:00am+1	1, 4, 5
OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN			
0Z120	9:50pm	2:20am+1	Daily
BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
0Z607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	Daily
SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
0Z603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
0Z120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	Daily via KIX
0Z605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
0Z605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
0Z611	9:10pm	2:40am+1	Daily
SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU763	7:55pm	3:10am+1	4, 7
GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
KHABAROVSK (KHV)-SAIPAN			
SYL9949	12:45pm	5:20pm	7
MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
PR110/UA5072	7:55am	6:25pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
DL172/288	8:00am	12:50am+1	Daily via NRT
UA190/5079	10:55am	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
0Z702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
0Z702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
0Z704/603	11:45pm	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
UA184/5071	11:35pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
0Z746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
0Z722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
0Z722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA180/5071	10:45pm	8:05am+1	1, 5 via GUM
UA180/5071	10:50pm	8:05am+1	3, 6 GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

No guaranteed payments

Awaiting action by the federal District Court of the Northern Mariana Islands is an agreement titled "Final Amended Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement." The parties who are signatories to the agreement expect the court to issue an order of approval or rejection by Oct. 1, 2013.

The 43-page agreement provides for the settlement of the ongoing court cases involving the NMI Retirement Fund. And because of its unusually extended term, which could last beyond the natural life of every person now living in the CNMI and the adverse effect it would have on every family whose livelihood is dependent on retirement benefits, the agreement should be a concern not only to retirees, active, and inactive employees of the CNMI government but also the entire public as effectuating the agreement would surely add an extra financial load on our heavily burdened government.

We were inclined to believe that in any agreement or stipulation of a court, its order would give, first and foremost, protection of the right and interest of an aggrieved party. In this case, they are the retirees, disabled, survivor beneficiaries, and all members of the defined benefit plan who have yet to retire. The agreement provides for retirees and all other beneficiaries, including those who chose to remain members of the settlement fund, to receive only 75 percent of their full benefits while reserving their right to the 25 percent, which is being deferred. Additionally, these same class members agree that in the event that there is not enough funds to make the 75 percent benefits payment, the trustee with the approval of the court can reduce the amount to whatever amount the settlement fund can afford. All these tell us is that in spite of all the efforts and promises made by all parties, the payments of 75 percent of the full benefits is not guaranteed—only an educated guess. But there are payment and remunerations that are guaranteed. These are for the trustees, administrator and staff personnel, and oh yes, for the plaintiff and her four lawyers, who are appointed as the class representative and class counsels of the settlement fund.

Lorenzo LG. Cabrera
Tun Herman Pan Road, Saipan

Created for the people

It is true that CUC have multiple faults and should be investigated. Of course many of the problems can be avoided but, true, some lousy, lazy employees can make life difficult to honest customers. I had experience in Guam with the Guam Waterworks Authority that had been billing me for water at my newly built house that was without an actual water connection. The funny thing is that I was even threatened for disconnection when there was no connection in the first place. I called management to inform them that I am calling the media on the subject and to my surprise action was swift to correct the mistake. Yes, CUC is no different. They will also make mistakes but those who are creating the mistake should be kicked out of CUC and lock the door behind them to forever not be employed by the corporation.

I was with the understanding that CUC was created for the people but it sure looks like the other way around. How so? Well, when I was the resident director of Finance Rota back in the mid-'90s the revenue section used to cut off accepting payments from the public by 3pm due to internal reasons. I changed that and insisted that the government is open until 4:30pm and all payments by the public should be accepted by the government. Remember, the government works for the people, not the other way around.

Likewise, CUC was created for the good of the people, not the other way around. I had experience having my employee run over to CUC to pay and was informed that they cannot accept payment due to system (computer failure) down. Well, what happened to manual receipts for back up? In one major typhoon, CUC management on Rota begged for my store to provide emergency account to feed crews for their overtime activities, only to be fooled by these people.

What is needed at CUC is an understanding by the corporation that CUC was created to serve the interest of the people, not to fool people. What happened to alternative energy programs whose intention is to lower power rates in the long run? Get the fat asses out of CUC and place people who have the public good in mind. And what happen to all the promises?

Frank M. Atalig
Sinapalo, Rota

RETURN

From Page 11

time when it will be on its own and producing the next generation.

What are family values? Values should represent elements, principles, factors, norms, standards, objectives, beliefs, conditions, situations, practices, and humanistic desires that contribute to the stable and healthy families that, in turn, contribute to the health and sanctity of a society. In the CNMI, are parents educating and teaching children about honesty, integrity, responsibility, respect, trust, and commitment? Are we as parents neglecting the teaching of respect for others and their property? And, who is supposed to do it? If children are loosed into the world without a sense of responsibility, where are they going to get it? What about caring for each other? Is the home a sanctuary and a safe place for our children where they are protected by those they love and who they depend on for care, nurturing, and protection? Are parents molding their children in self-control and self-discipline? When children learn the ability to keep from doing what they shouldn't do, even if they want to, and doing what they should, even if they don't want to, isn't that every parent's dream and expectation? On the other hand, the value of all education is the ability to do the thing you have to do, when it ought to be done, whether you like it or not. Can we draw that sense of reciprocity from our educational institutions here at home? If all these values in discipline are well taught at home, would they promote a good society?

The influence of commercialism and money controlling family affairs strike at the heart of family values. The proliferation of the instant and disposable family in traumatic situations caused by sexual promiscuity, infidelity, and divorce are causative impacts that destroy family values of honesty, integrity, responsibility, respect, trust and commitment. The breakdown of the family has a rippling, damming, and undermining effect, transcending all facets of family life. The sad irony to all these is that some people view traumatic causative effects as normal outcomes of modern-day social life. We spend more time dealing with faults and anomalies of family life cycles at the expense of trying to foster values that our children will need for the rest of their lives. Lacking the personal experience of a healthy family environment, they stand little chance of establishing one for themselves.

We need to return to family values. If and only if families here in the CNMI, particularly the indigenous people of these islands, take positive steps by recognizing the importance of preparing our children to fill a responsible place in present and succeeding generations. The Bible teaches us that a seed planted on good soil would naturally produce healthy and abundant fruits. In the same light, a house built on solid foundation would be strong and stay upright, but one built on loose soil would be weak and easily destroyed. For example, the practice of "kerida" or "kerido" in a family, coupled with selfishness and greed over possessions of little value, destroys the essence of family unity, freedom and responsibility. The world is not certainly perfect by any means but that does not close the door for our families on these islands from focusing on family values in spite of competing interest procured and advanced by modern-day lifestyle. The binding mortar and building blocks are found in family values.

Francisco R. Agulto
Kannat Tabla, Saipan

Collect stickers and
pick your favorite!
FREE
1 sticker
2 stickers
3 stickers
GET QUENCHED
McCafé
Smiles
Mobil
Fuel up and be rewarded for your love of Smiles! From August 30, 2013 to October 24, 2013, every $20 gas or diesel purchase will get you one sticker. Collect stickers and save your receipts to redeem for your choice of a McDonald's® treat!
Just fuel up and swipe your Smiles Card today!
No. of Stickers On A Single Reward Card | Free McDonald's Prize
1 | Large Fountain Drink
2 | Small Frappe
3 | Big Mac® Extra Value Meal®
i'm lovin' it
Offer good from August 30, 2013 to October 24, 2013, or while reward cards & stickers supplies last. Reward cards are redeemable only with the corresponding number of Mobil gas receipts attached at any participating Saipan McDonald's restaurant from August 30, 2013 to November 24, 2013. Each reward card is valid for redemption of one McDonald's prize only. Not valid with any other McDonald's offer. Fleet Card members are not eligible for this promotion.
Mobil
We're drivers too.
Call our toll-free hotline at 1-866-486-7751 Monday through Friday from 10 am to 7 pm for more details.

IT&E supports MINA's Green Gala

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

IT&E marketing coordinator Brad E. Ruszala, second from right, presents Mariana Islands Nature Alliance executive director Sam Sablan with a check for $1,000. The funds will be used to support the 2013 Green Gala, MINA's largest fundraising event of the year. Also in picture are Environmental Camp project manager Catherine Shai, far right, and Micronesia Challenge Young Champion Jojo Cruz, far left.

IT&E, the CNMI's telecommunications leader, continues to support the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance with a contribution to the next month's Green Gala.

Branded as the "social event of the year," the Green Gala is MINA's largest fundraising event that allows the nonprofit organization to continue its conservation efforts of the diverse natural resources of the Northern Mariana Islands.

"This is our biggest event of the year and we count on support from our community partners like IT&E to allow us to continue increasing awareness for the protection and preservation of the CNMI's precious natural resources," said MINA executive director Sam Sablan.

According to Sablan, the 2012 edition of the Green Gala successfully raised critical funds that fueled projects and activities such as the Tasi Watch Program, the No Need Bag campaign, beach cleanups, and the green recycle bins located at most CNMI beaches.

In addition to supporting the Gala, IT&E recently renewed its partnership with MINA through its islandwide recycling campaign. Since the program's inception, IT&E has sponsored the removal of recycled materials from one of Saipan's most popular venues, the Oleai Sports Complex.

"We appreciate our environment and we're proud to support organizations like MINA who are dedicated to the keeping our islands beautiful," said IT&E marketing manager Hans Mickelson.

For more information about IT&E, contact IT&E Customer Care at 682-4ITE (4483). ***(IT&E)***

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

Advanced happy birthday to the most wonderful, loving, and caring mommy, daughter, partner, friend, and sister in the whole world, Officer Leslie P. Sablan! May your day be filled with lots of love, smiles, and blessings. We love you to the moon, beyond, and back! Greetings come from your boys Andy and Riley, your honey, and the Sablan-Magofna-Pangelinan families.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday to my loving wife and mother of our kids, Marline Kaneshi! Thank you for taking care of us everyday! Love and kisses, Jerry and kids.

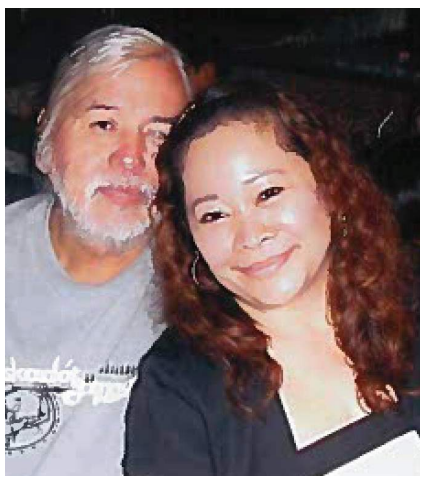
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 3rd birthday to our Tiny Toon Bowler, Hulk Tywin James B. Ada! Today is your bowling championship day, so show everyone you're the greatest bowler in the house. *In guaiya hao neni, ginen e familian* Aguas *yan* Chaketa.

WEDDED BLISS

Happy anniversary to our beloved mom and dad, Louie and Melba Camacho, who will celebrate their wedding anniversary tomorrow, Aug. 31, and happy birthday greetings to our dearest daddy, Louie Camacho, who turns another year older on Sept. 1. We love you so much! Greetings come from your wife Melba and kids Alyson, Luisa, and Jayson Jr.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



ALL-NEW
RIO

The talented compact car

Talent might be hard to find, but with the Kia Rio you know you've found it. With a low roof line lending it a coupé-like silhouette, Rio's clean, flowing lines combine with the latest technology, advanced features and low emissions to make this a car that's gifted both inside and out.

$125 Starting at per paycheck*

$135 Starting at per paycheck**

ALL-NEW
FORTE

Add a dose of extraordinary to your life

Perhaps you never thought innovation, technical excellence and exceptional style could all come together in an affordable passenger car. But finally, they do. Let the new Forte take you places you've only imagined.

Joeten Motors
POWERED BY YOU

SHOWROOM HOURS: MON. – FRI. 8 AM – 6 PM • SAT. 8 AM - 12 NOON • TEL. (670) 234-5562

Vehicle may not be exactly as shown • Some conditions apply • On approved credit • See dealer for details • While Supplies last. **EPA Estimated hwy mpg.

* **Kia Rio** retail price $16,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 60 monthly payments of $269.22 or $124.25 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment $16,153.20.
** **Kia Forte LX** retail price $18,495.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 60 monthly payments of $292.98 or $135.22 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment $17,578.80.
Documentation fees and registration not included.

KIA
The Power to Surprise

Are you the next top chef of Saipan?

Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation will be hosting another Saipan Next Top Chef competition on Nov 30, 2013, at the Pacific Islands Club, from 2pm to 4pm.

Five contestants will be competing for third, second, and the grand prize award in this year's edition of the competition.

Proceeds from this event will go toward the purchase of school supplies to help needy families on Saipan.

The previous year's event was very successful, with Emmanuel Pacha from Marianas Resort & Spa walking off with the grand prize and bragging rights as Saipan's Top Chef.

Emmanuel Pacha from Marianas Resort & Spa, Saipan's Top Chef for 2012, shows off his winning creation.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The 2011 edition of the competition was won by Melquiades de Ramos of Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

The 2012 Saipan Next Top Chef also featured Chef Peter Duenas, celebrity host of TV Outdoor Chef from Guam, as one of the judges.

Chefs who want to earn the title of Saipan's Next Top Chef for 2013 are invited to register with Vicky Benavente, executive assistant for PIC, at 237-5103 or email her at vicky.benavente@picsaipan.com; or via Rose Smith of Empty Vessel at 483-0162 or at roseevm@yahoo.com.

"Empty Vessel appreciates our major sponsor, Pacific Island Club, for their help in organizing the 2013 Saipan Next Top Chef competition," said Smith. "We also appreciate those who have stood by us through their financial donations, resources, and volunteering their time in our activities."

The Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation is a non-profit, faith-based organization committed to helping women and children by providing basic needs and tools for children on Saipan and making a difference in the lives of orphans, street children, and women abroad, through our various fundraising activities.

Among the exciting fundraising project sponsored by Empty Vessel is the recent launching of the Eldoret Street Market in Kenya in April 2013, an idea born out of the Garapan Street Market. ***(PR)***

Chamber meeting on Sept. 4

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will host its September monthly general membership luncheon meeting at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan this coming Wednesday, Sept. 4, 2013, from 11:30am to 1pm.

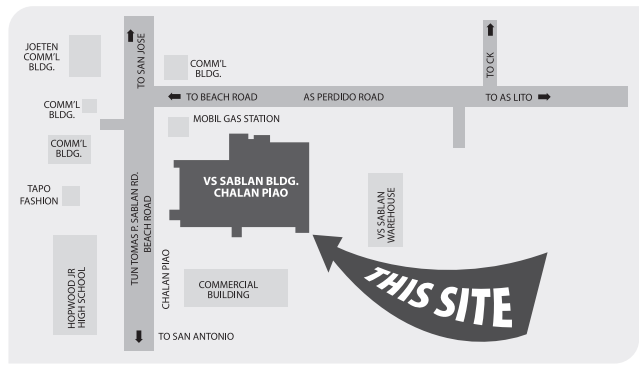
Addressing the Chamber membership will be keynote speaker Gerry Perez, chairman of the Guam Chamber of Commerce. Perez will be reciprocating the recent presentation by Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Alex Sablan before the GCC membership on July 31, 2013.

Also speaking will be acting Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director Alan Fletcher. Fletcher will be talking about CUC's announced intention to present evidence before the Public Utilities Commission to increase power, water, and sewer rates in October this year.

At the meeting's opening, Steven Brownstein, who donated $5,000 and is this year's Platinum Sponsor for the 2013 Saipan Chamber of Commerce/ Steven Brownstein Golf Classic, will be presenting another donation toward the SCC College Scholarship Fund.

Luncheon at the Fiesta Resort and Spa is $20 for Chamber members, and $30 for guests and the general public. ***(PR)***

Sablan Enterprises, Inc
dba SABLAN REALTY



With Three Great Commercial Building Locations in Chalan Piao, Chalan Kanoa, and San Jose

VS Sablan Plaza in Chalan Piao
Now Open Daily 10:00AM to 7:00PM

Visit Saipan Digital Image,
Melanie's Gift Shop, Morning Glory

Sablan Building Chalan Kanoa
Home of **Pena House Boutique** & the **Bank of Saipan**

SABLAN REALTY
invites you to locate your business or residence at one of our great locations. **Maintenance Free.**
Common Areas & Grounds Cleaned Daily.

Commercial Space for Rent
at our San Jose & Chalan Piao Buildings.

Sablan Building in San Jose
First Floor: Three Units Available. 600 sq.ft. at **50¢ per square foot**. Units on the **Second Floor** are also available at **50¢ per square foot.**
At **Our Chalan Piao Building, VSS PLAZA** we have rental space available on the **first floor** now at **65 cents per square foot** for units ranging from 541 sq. ft. to 1400 sq ft.
Large 4500 square foot space on the **second floor** that would be ideal for a Daycare Center, Dance Studio or Gym at **35¢ per square foot.**
Second Floor - Office Space, 900 sq.ft. to 1,400 sq. ft. at **50¢ per square foot.**

2nd Floor Office Space (2 Units) Available at Chalan Kanoa, Above Bank of Saipan - **800 Sq ft per unit at 65 cents per square foot. Both available by 7/15/13**

For Lease – 53,500 Sq Meters Available for Lease in Kanat Tabla.
Ocean View. 31 years Remaining on Lease.
Asking 10.00 per square meter. Negotiable.
– 3,779 Sq Meters Available for Lease at Laulau Bay.
44 years Remaining on Lease.
Asking $25.00 per square meter. Negotiable.

Warehouse For Lease – 6750 Square Feet with Storage Yard Fenced in Totaling 2000 square meters.
Located at our Chalan Piao location.
Asking $2,000.00 per month. Negotiable.

Contact Tony Muna (Cell No. 888-9290 Email Address: plebechamp80@gmail.com) or Ben Sablan (Cell No. 898-2454 Email Address: vicente_sablan@yahoo.com) or Call 234-2585.

GUANGDONG HARDWARE
Never satisfied until you are
GUANGDONG MILEI? GUANGDONG BA ITO?

GOOD NEWS TO ALL TINIAN/ROTA CUSTOMERS:
To order just dial 288-2288, Payment can be made through credit card authorization, or cashier check, postal money order, traveler's check sent thru Freedom Air/ SN-5.

HOLLOW BLOCKS (CMU) 4" – $0.78/pc; 6" – $0.88/pc; 8" – $0.98/pc

#4 REBAR $800.00/BUNDLE

#3,#5,#6,#7,#8 REBAR $810.00/ST
MADE IN KOREA

THIN-SET MORTAR $7.80
JOINT COMPOUND $21.00 5 GAL.

ELECTRICAL PIPE 1/2" $2.40 | 3/4" $2.90

NEW ARRIVALS OF CERAMIC TILES
12"*12" $0.89/pc
8''*12" $0.60/pc

CPVC PIPE
1/2" $18.00
3/4'' $26.00
1'' $35.00

OTHERS

CEMENT $7.40/BAG
DELIVERY CHARGE TO TINIAN-$3.00/BAG

SEMI-GLOSS INT. & EXT. LATEX $19.50/GAL | $79.99/PAIL

FLAT INT. & EXT. LATEX (PRIMER) $17.50/GAL | $69.99/PAIL

WIRE MESH 7''*50' $73.00

WIRE MESH 7''*100' $136.00

U.S. LUMBER
2X4X20 REGULAR $9.25
2X4X20 TREATED $15.00

15% TO 50% OFF ALL DAMAGED ITEMS!
CHEAPEST DEALER OF MAJOR CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL ON ISLAND!

P.O. BOX 501640, SAIPAN, MP 96950
TEL: (670) 288-2288/2289/6688
FAX: 288-4488
E-mail:gddc@pticom.com
Business hours:
Mon. to Sat. 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
AMERICAN EXPRESS MasterCard VISA

MINA welcomes TSL Foundation as Green Gala sponsor

The Mariana Islands Nature Alliance recently welcomed the Tan Siu Lin Foundation as a grand sponsor of its upcoming Green Gala event.

The Green Gala, which will be held on Sept. 7, 2013, a Saturday, at the Fiesta Resort's Hibiscus Hall, aims to raise critical funds to help MINA, a nonprofit organization, continue its work in protecting the environment.

"The Tan Siu Lin Foundation has been a staunch supporter of environmental efforts in the CNMI and of the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance," said Frankie Eliptico, MINA board chairperson. "We're extremely happy to welcome them again as a sponsor for this year's Green Gala event."

The leading conservation nonprofit organization in the Commonwealth, MINA has successfully implemented many projects, including the Obyan Rehabilitation Project, the Teacher Environmental Camp, the Marine Debris Prevention program, Tasi Watch Project, and the Adopt-A-Bin Project, which has placed recycle bins at all the major beaches on the island.

In order to continue its efforts to preserve and protect the CNMI's fragile environment and biodiversity, MINA is seeking the community's participation in the Green Gala event. The organization is supported by project grants and from generous contributions from local businesses and community members.

In addition to great entertainment, dinner and a variety of beverages, The Green Gala will feature highlights from MINA's projects, a silent auction, and many other activities that promise a memorable evening.

"It's going to be a great night for the environment," said Fran Castro, MINA board member who is also leading the planning for the Gala activities.

The other grand sponsors of the event include the Joeten Charitable Foundation and Power 99. Major sponsors include IT&E, Docomo, DFS Galleria, Bank of Guam, and Bridge Capital. Other event donors include TakeCare Insurance, Triple J Enterprises, 360 Revolving Restaurant, SUP SPN, Delta Airlines, Delta Management, JEM Kagman Mobil, *Marianas Variety*, Hyatt, Moylan's, Jose Quan, Pacific Islands Club, Burger & Comer, Mark James, Handbags Etc., Iridescent, Pena House, Blue Continent Communications (KKMP), 670 Rock Steady, Angil Design, Blossom's and Dial Rent to Own.

Tickets for the Green Gala event can be purchased online at minapacific.org or by calling the MINA office at 233-REEF (7333). To become a sponsor of the event, contact Sam Sablan, MINA executive director, at 233-7333 or email sablansam@gmail.com. ***(MINA)***

MARK RABAGO
Saipan Mayor Donald P. Flores, middle, poses with staff who passed a two-day FEMA Incident Command System course.

21 from mayor's office hurdle FEMA course

Twenty-one staff from the Saipan Mayor's Office passed a two-day FEMA Incident Command System course that was held on Aug. 8 and 9 at the mayor's office in Oleai.

Operations assistant and training coordinator Joann Aquino said 21 mayor's staff are now certified disaster responders after successfully hurdling the "Introduction to the Incident Command System."

The 21 are made up of operations' Antonio Aquino, Leonardo Babauta, Ramon Bermudes, Michael Cruz, Donald Crisostomo, Ernest Kanai, Danny Kintol, Antonieto Mateo, Markus Ngiraidong, Wayne Sanchez, Jesse C. Taitano, Gregorio Tebit, Vicente Tenorio, Michael Tomakane, Joseph Villagomez, and Aquino, administration's Kaisha Nepaial and Lorraine Pangelinan, and dog control's Vincent Deleon Guerrero and Isaiah Lizama.

The introductory course on the Incident Command System provides the foundation for higher-level ICS training. The course described the history, features and principles, and organizational structure of the Incident Command System. It also explained the relationship between the ICS and National Incident Management System.

Aquino said that 16 mayor's employees who are not certified yet were either too busy to take part in the course or attended the course but have yet to take the exam, which was under time constraints, with examinees given only 20 minutes to answer all the questions.

Among the disaster scenarios responders have to respond to, according to Aquino, are typhoons, floods, earthquakes, tsunami, chemical and biological attacks, rampage shooters, among others.

With the certification of 21 of its staff, the mayor's office, under Saipan Mayor Donald Flores, can now take part in the periodic KONFITMA exercise conducted islandwide.

KONFITMA is a partnership between the CNMI and the U.S. Department of Defense, and various agencies to test the response capabilities of law enforcers and many agencies.

Aside from the 21 who hurdled the basic course, 16 also took part and passed the ICS for Singles Resources and Initial Action Incident, which was designed to enable personnel to operate efficiently during an incident or event within the ICS. The course (ICS 200) essentially provides training on and resources for personnel who are likely to assume a supervisory position with the ICS.

Those who passed the ICS 200 are Aquino, Aguon, Babauta, Bermudes, Cruz, Crisostomo, Deleon Guerrero, Kintol, Lizama, Mateo, Nepaial, Santos, Sanchez, Tebit, Tenorio, Tomokane, Villagomez, and Pangelinan. ***(Mark Rabago)***

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REVISED REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS FOR ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES

TINIAN HARBOR SEAWATER FIRE FIGHTING SYSTEM PROJECT NO. CPA-TS-001-13

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested firms for Architectural/Engineering (A/E) Design Services.

The general scope of work is for A/E design services for design of seawater fire-fighting system for the Tinian Harbor, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands. These services will include an assessment of the existing conditions and design of a new seawater fire-fighting system to be installed at the Tinian Harbor including plans, specifications and estimates for the anticipated repair work and improvements.

At a minimum, the statements of professional qualification from firms should address the areas generally described below:

1. Overall A/E design experience in the Pacific area and especially in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands;
2. A/E Design experience related to CPA projects;
3. Level of proficiency in performing A/E services promptly; and level of experience with seaport projects;
4. The general reputation of the firm in terms of quality of A/E work experience and services performed for seaport projects, and the firm's professional integrity and competence; and
5. Resumes of key personnel including current licenses and registrations of principal, if applicable.

Interested firms must submit one (1) original and four (4) copies each of their statements of professional qualifications no later than **4:30 p.m., Friday, September 6, 2013**.

Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

Send information to:
Ms. MaryAnn Q. Lizama
Acting Executive Director
Commonwealth Ports Authority
P.O. Box 501055
Saipan, MP 96950-1055

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Board Chairman/Contracting Officer
Date: August 13, 2013

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
INVITATION TO BID
ITB13-DEQ-168

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: SEPTEMBER 23, 2013 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF TEN (10) COMPUTER SYSTEMS FOR THE DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY – TINIAN BRANCH"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ FRANK M. RABAULIMAN
DIRECTOR OF DEQ

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
MVA-RFP-13-2323

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

For: Purchase and Installation of Optical Mark Reflex Scanner System for the Marianas Visitors Authority

Closing Date: September 24, 2013 Time: 4:30 p.m.

Submit sealed proposals to: The Division of Procurement & Supply
P.O. Box 10008
Saipan, MP 96950

Interested parties may pick up the scope of work at the Marianas Visitors Authority office between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., (closed 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.) Monday to Friday, except holidays or by visiting the MVA website at www.mymarianas.com. A pre-posers meeting will take place on September 10, 2013 at 9:00a.m. at the Marianas Visitors Authority.

/s/ HERMAN SABLAN
Director, P&S

/s/ PERRY P. TENORIO
Managing Director

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP13-CHCC-160

SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 19, 2013 • TIME: 2:00 P.M.

"VENDOR HOSTED DIRECT SECURE MESSAGING SYSTEM FOR THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION"

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKET MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR , DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP MAY BE SENT TO **chie@tipg.net** WITH THE SUBJECT EMAIL MESSAGE BEING: **"DSM RFP QUESTION"** NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, **SEPTEMBER 10, 2013.**

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS AND WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID PROPOSAL THAT DOES NOT AFFECT THE ELEMENTS OF PRICE, QUALITY, AND DELIVERY OF THE PRODUCT OR SERVICE IF IT IS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE GOVERNMENT. ALL BID DOCUMENTS WILL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC INTERIM CEO

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP13-CHCC/WIC-154

SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 11, 2013 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"LACTATION CONSULTANT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION, W.I.C. PROGRAM"

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKET MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS AND WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID PROPOSAL THAT DOES NOT AFFECT THE ELEMENTS OF PRICE, QUALITY, AND DELIVERY OF THE PRODUCT OR SERVICE IF IT IS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE GOVERNMENT. ALL BID DOCUMENTS WILL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI WIC PROGRAM.

/S/ ESTHER L MUNA
CGCC INTERIM CEO

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

/s/ CARMEN C. CABRERA
WIC PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR

Business

Advice for small companies: Take stock, take risks

By JOYCE M. ROSENBERG
AP BUSINESS WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—The economy is showing signs of life and that makes it a good time for small business owners to reevaluate how they are running their companies.

Now that crisis mode has passed, owners need to make sure they're ready to take advantage of growth opportunities on the horizon. Experts say it's time for owners to think about taking some risks and to make sure that they are taking care of employees.

There's evidence that owners are more confident. Nearly half of small business owners say there will be growth opportunities in the coming year, according to a survey taken in June and July by the National Small Business Association. That's up from 38 percent six months ago. And the Wells Fargo/Gallup Small Business Index of small business confidence, compiled from a July survey of owners, jumped 9 points to 25 from the start of the year.

Of course, the economy still has soft spots, including manufacturing and sales of new homes, which fell sharply in July. And many owners are uneasy because they don't know what health insurance will cost under the Affordable Care Act.

But owners shouldn't give into uncertainty, says Paul Sarvadi, an adviser to many small business owners.

"I wouldn't let the negative news and negative backdrop rob you of that innate risk-taking advantage and edge that you have," says Sarvadi, CEO of Insperity, a Houston-based human resources provider.

Here's a look what small business owners should be doing right now:

Look ahead

Owners should take a break from the day-to-day grind and think about the future.

"Back away from the business and look strategically at next year and ask, `what can I do differently?'" Sarvadi says. "Look at your (business) plan. Are you going to beat it or be behind it?"

Owners should think about how they get their sales.

"You have to aggressively make sure you have your best foot forward on every sale, especially those most likely to come in," he says.

Keeping costs down should remain a priority because customers are willing to bolt to another business that offers lower prices, says David Rosenbaum, president of Real-Time Computer Services, a technology services company based in New York.

"You need to be putting an additional emphasis on figuring out how to less expensively deliver what product or service you're delivering," Rosenbaum adds. "You may not be able to charge what you did before."

Owners also need to help customers understand that their products and services are more valuable than what competitors offer.

"They have to figure out ways to communicate that they're different," Rosenbaum says.

Owners should take an honest, hard look at their companies and see if there are fundamental changes to make, recommends Kathleen Allen, a professor of entrepreneurship at the University of Southern California's Marshall School of Business.

"You need to really analyze your business and say, what are the products or services I'm selling that are doing well? What are the ones that are not? And can I substitute them with something else?" she says.

Throw caution to the wind (sort of)

This is the time to take risk.

Surveys over the past year have shown that owners are playing it safe because of the economy. These days, many owners see hiring even one employee or investing in an expensive piece of equipment as risky. But that strategy isn't always the safest bet.

"To do nothing is to take a risk, and more often than not, it's as great a risk as taking calculated action," says Dennis Ceru, an adjunct professor of entrepreneurship at Babson College in Wellesley, Mass.

Consumer spending and the economy can rebound quickly. Companies that can't jump on an opportunity because they don't have the staff or equipment may lose out to competitors.

"To be caught unaware and unprepared is as bad or worse as stepping into the pool before it's up to temperature," Ceru says.

Not moving forward because of uncertainty about the health care law is a mistake, USC's Allen says.

"They will not get all their questions answered for some time to come. Do you stand and wait for everything to be figured out before you do anything to grow your business?" she says.

Show employees that you care

As the labor market improves, many people will look for new jobs. Retaining staffers is key, says Maria Martinez, owner of Respira Medical, a company that provides respiratory and other medical equipment.

Martinez, who has 60 employees, uses incentives like flexible scheduling and tuition reimbursement to reward and keep staffers. They can come in late or leave early when necessary. She gives each employee four days a year with pay to volunteer at charitable organizations.

"It could be the simplest things that could make a difference," says Martinez, whose company is based in Linthicum Heights, Md.

Martinez also believes in helping any employee who's struggling with personal or financial issues. She arranged for dental care for a staffer who couldn't afford it. The man never smiled because he was ashamed of his teeth, and when he got dentures, he began smiling at work for the first time. Martinez also fired a worker who belittled the man because of his teeth.

Owners who had to cut 401(k) contributions or other benefits because of the recession and its aftermath should start restoring them, Insperity's Sarvadi says.

"I would consider, if not all at once, then incrementally bringing some things back," he says.

Bank of Guam promotes Obispo to SVP

HAGATNA, Guam—Bank of Guam announced yesterday the appointment of Theresa Cruz Obispo as senior vice president and human resources administrator.

Obispo

Obispo originally joined the bank in 1989 and served in a number of administrative, operational, and credit capacities before resigning in 2003. Upon returning to the bank in 2006, she was appointed as an assistant vice president/training and staff development officer. In 2008, she was promoted to vice president/human resources manager and then in 2010 as vice president/human resources administrator, and has served in that capacity until her most recent promotion.

Obispo earned her Senior Professional Human Resource in 2010 and her masters in Business Administration from the University of Phoenix in 2011. She earned her bachelor of science degree in Finance in 2006 also from the University of Phoenix.

She currently serves on the advisory board of the Guam American Cancer Society as its president and also serves on their board of directors. ***(BOG)***

Back to School/Pedestrian & Bicycle Safety Awareness Month

August 01 – 31, 2013

Family Safety Rules for Bicycle Riding

Follow these rules when you ride your bicycle:

- Always wear a bicycle helmet—every time you ride!
- Ride on the right, in the same direction as other vehicles. The bicycle is a vehicle. Bicyclists and drivers follow the same rules of the road!
- Ride a bicycle that fits you and has working parts.
- Always ride with at least one hand on the handlebars.
- Obey all traffic laws, signs, and signals.
- Be visible. Wear bright clothing and reflective materials during the day.
- If you have to ride at night, you must have white headlight in the front and red lights or reflectors on the back of your bike. Reflective material on your clothing, helmet, backpack, is helpful at dusk, dawn, in bad weather or at night.
- Always pay attention to traffic. Never use headphones or talk on cell phone while you bike.
- Avoid dangers in the road.

Follow these rules when driving around bicyclists:

- Obey all signs and signals.
- Bicyclists are allowed to ride on the roadway unless there is a sign that says no bicycles.
- Stop, wait, or pass bicycles as you would a car.

Bicyclists Make Safe Choices!

Bicycles in the roadway are considered vehicles.

Bicyclists ages 10 and older should bicycle like a vehide, on the street, in the same direction as other traffic and follow the same rules.

Sidewalks were designed for pedestrians. If you bicycle on the sidewalk:

- **Bicycle slowly and give pedestrians the right of way.**
- **Don't bike into Grandma or baby brother in hisstroller.**
- **Follow the rules for pedestrians.**
  - *Stop before crossing the street from a sidewalk to give motorists time to see you.*
  - *Make sure turning motorists see you by making eye contact.*
  - *Cross the road by walking your bicycle in the crosswalk just like a pedestrian.*

Getting to School Safely

By Walking — Crossing the Street

1. Walk to school with a group of kids and always have a responsible adult walk with you.
2. Always walk on the sidewalk if one is available.
3. If no sidewalk is available, walk facing the traffic.
4. The safest place to cross is at a street corner or intersection.
5. If you are 10 years old or younger, you need to cross the street with an adult. You should not cross by yourself. Ask an adult to tell you who can help you cross the street.
6. Before you step off the curb to cross the street, stop and look left-right-left to see if cars are coming. Do you know your left from your right? If you do, that is great! If you don't, here is a hint: when you hold your left hand up, your thumb and first finger will make the letter "L," and that stands for "left."
7. When no cars are coming, it is safe for you and an adult to cross. But look left-right-left as you do it, and hold the adult's hand.

By Riding Your Bicycle

1. The best and smartest bicycle riders always wear their bicycle helmets! They know that bicycle helmets will keep their heads and brains safe. Are you one of the best and smartest riders?
2. Ask an adult to make sure that your helmet fits correctly. The helmet should fit low on your forehead so that two fingers fit between it and your eyebrows. Another way to check is to put the helmet on your head and look up. If you can't see your helmet, it is too far back.
3. To ride safely, you need to know the rules of the road. Do you know what "the rules of the road" are for bicycles? If you don't, then you should not ride in traffic or without an adult.
4. When you ride your bicycle, wearing a helmet helps to keep you safe. You should also wear bright colors during the day, and right before the sun rises or sets. This makes it easier for drivers to see you, and that helps to keep you safe, too.
5. Riding at night can be dangerous. If you have to ride your bicycle at night, you should ride with an adult. You should also have a white light on the front of your bicycle and a red reflector on the back. You can also get lights and reflective materials to put on your shoes, helmet and clothing. When light hits this material at night, it glows and makes it easier for a driver to see you!
6. Practice makes you more skilled at riding your bicycle. The more skilled you are at riding, the less likely you will be to crash. Practice riding skills in an empty parking lot or a place with no traffic. Practice such things as riding in a straight line, looking over your shoulder, signaling with your hands, and starting and stopping.

Pedestrians Make Safe Choices!

Don't forget, only cross in crosswalks!

CNMI Department of Public Safety. For more information call:
SAIPAN 664-9001/2 TINIAN 433-9222 ROTA 532-9433

Nation

Obama: Syrian gov't carried out chemical attack

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama on Wednesday declared unequivocally that the United States has "concluded" that the Syrian government carried out a deadly chemical weapons attack on civilians. But new hurdles emerged that appeared to slow the formation of an international coalition that could use military force to punish Syria.

Obama did not present any direct evidence to back up his assertion that the Syrian government bears responsibility for the attack. At the same time, U.S. officials were searching for additional intelligence to bolster the case for a strike against Assad's military infrastructure. Questions remained about whether the attack could be linked to Assad or high officials and whether a rogue element of the Syrian military could have used the weapons on its own authority.

While Obama said he is still evaluating possible military retaliation, he vowed that any American response would send a "strong signal" to Syrian President Bashar Assad.

"We have concluded that the Syrian government in fact carried these out," Obama said during an interview with "NewsHour" on PBS. "And if that's so, then there need to be international consequences."

Earlier Wednesday, the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council failed to reach an agreement on a draft resolution from the British seeking authorization for the use of force. Russia, as expected, objected to international intervention.

Obama administration officials said they would take action against the Syrian government even without the backing of allies or the United Nations because diplomatic paralysis must not prevent a response to the alleged chemical weapons attack outside the Syrian capital last week.

Despite the administration's assertions that it would press forward without the U.N., momentum for international military action appeared to slow.

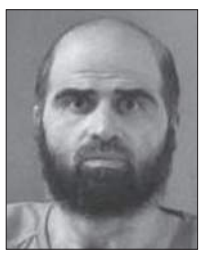
British Prime Minister David Cameron promised British lawmakers he would not go to war until a U.N. chemical weapons team on the ground in Syria has a chance to report its findings, pushing the U.K.'s involvement in any potential strike until next week at the earliest. Cameron called an emergency meeting of Parliament on Thursday to vote on whether to endorse international action against Syria.

Even so, British Foreign Secretary William Hague suggested that U.S. military action need not be constrained by Britain. "The United States are able to make their own decisions," he told reporters late Wednesday, just after speaking with Secretary of State John Kerry.

Soldier sentenced to death for Fort Hood shooting

FORT HOOD, Texas (AP)—A military jury on Wednesday sentenced Maj. Nidal Hasan to death for the 2009 shooting rampage at Fort Hood, handing the Army psychiatrist the ultimate punishment after a trial in which he seemed to be courting martyrdom by making almost no effort to defend himself.

The rare military death sentence came nearly four years after the attack that stunned even an Army hardened by more than a decade of constant war. Hasan walked into a medical building where soldiers were getting medical checkups, shouted "Allahu akbar"—Arabic for "God is great!"—and opened fire with a laser-sighted handgun. Thirteen people were killed.


Hasan

Hasan, who said he acted to protect Islamic insurgents abroad from American aggression, had no visible reaction when the sentence was announced, staring first at the jury forewoman and then at the judge. Some victims' relatives were in the courtroom but none showed any reaction, which the judge had warned against.

The American-born Muslim of Palestinian descent acted as his own attorney and never denied his actions at the huge Texas Army post. In opening statements, he told jurors that evidence would show he was the shooter and described himself as a soldier who had "switched sides."

The same jurors who convicted Hasan last week deliberated the sentence for about two hours. They needed to agree unanimously on the death penalty. The only alternative was life in prison without parole.

Kathy Platoni, an Army reservist who still struggles with images of Capt. John Gaffaney bleeding to death at her feet, said she was not opposed to the punishment.

Hasan wanted "to be a martyr and so many of the (victims') families had spoken to the issue of not giving him what he wants because this is his own personal holy war," said Platoni, who watched most of the trial from inside the courtroom.

"But on the other hand—this is from the bottom of my heart—he doesn't deserve to live," she said. "I don't know how long it takes for a death sentence to be carried out, but the world will be a better place without him."

Hasan could become the first American soldier executed in more than half a century. But because the military justice system requires a lengthy appeals process, years or even decades could pass before he is put to death.

More than 300 sites ring bells for MLK speech

WASHINGTON (AP)—Church bells rang out Wednesday at the National Cathedral and at sites nationwide to answer a call from one of the most important civil rights speeches in history to "let freedom ring."

Organizers said people at more than 300 locations in nearly every state were ringing their bells to commemorate Martin Luther King Jr.'s Aug. 28, 1963 "I Have a Dream" speech.

At the National Cathedral in Washington, the central bell tower played "Lift Every Voice and Sing" from the carillon, along with other hymns and spirituals. The bells rang for about 15 minutes to mark the moment when the speech was delivered.

"I remember 50 years ago: the marching, the throngs of people, the speech, the energy," said Patty Mason, 69, of Bethesda, Md., who was one of about two dozen people who gathered outside the cathedral, gazing up at the bell tower. "It was amazing, just amazing."

Commemorations were taking place from a mountain in Georgia carved with the likenesses of Confederate leaders to the far reaches of Alaska, where participants rang cow bells and bear bells in Juneau.

Many of the commemorations were in sync with the hour when King gave his speech, 3 p.m. EDT, though some churches planned to ring their bells at 3 p.m. local time.

Fifty years ago, as King was wrapping up his speech at the Lincoln Memorial, he quoted from the patriotic song, "My Country `tis of Thee." King implored his audience to "let freedom ring" from the hilltops and mountains of every state in the nation, some of which he cited by name in his speech.

"When we allow freedom to ring—when we let it ring from every city and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual, `Free at last, free at last, great God almighty, we are free at last," King said in closing.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-13-028

SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF PREPAID METERS

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), Office of the Executive Director is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Supply and Delivery of Remote Disconnect Prepaid Meters for CUC Power Division, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Bid Package may be obtained, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash or check, in the amount of $100.00 for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-IFB-13-028, Supply & Delivery of Remote Disconnect Prepaid Meters",* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 9, 2013** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract. Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on **August 23, 2013** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Alfredo Palattao, CUC Power Division Engineer via email at alfredo.palattao@cucgov.org & Charles Warren, CUC Chief Financial Officer via email charles.warren@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA, Plaintiff, -v- **JOHN HENRY I. TAGABUEL and MICHELLE T. IGINOEF, aka MICHELLE MARIA I. TAGABUEL,** Defendants.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 12-0302

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on July 30, 2013, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot No. 010 K 77, situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 901 square meters, more or less, as more particularly shown on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 010 K 01,the original of which was recorded August 19, 1987, as file No. 87-2911, at the office of the Commonwealth Recorder.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, September 13, 2013, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 6th day of August, 2013:

/s/MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

TAPAN SHAHA, Petitioner, **vs.** **FIANA MOSES,** Respondent,

FCD-DI-CIVIL ACTION NO. 13-0365

SUMMONS

TO THE ABOVE NAMED RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy which is served upon you herewith, within twenty (20) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to Tapan Shaha whose address is P.O. Box 506011, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 6th day of August, 2013:

/s/ Clerk of Court

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

MD SHAZEDUR RAHMAN, Petitioner, **vs.** **EDNA KILLION,** Respondent,

FCD-DI-CIVIL ACTION NO. 13-0366

SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION

TO THE ABOVE NAMED RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is P.O. Box 505775, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307 Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 20th day of August, 2013:

/s/Clerk of Court

Asia

Woman tied to Philippine graft scandal surrenders

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A wealthy businesswoman at the center of a corruption scandal has surrendered to Philippine President Benigno Aquino III three days after a large protest in Manila to condemn large-scale graft allegations in a country long mired in poverty.

Presidential spokesman Edwin Lacierda said he fetched Janet Lim-Napoles, accompanied by her lawyer, late Wednesday in a cemetery. She was then brought to the Malacanang presidential palace to briefly meet Aquino before she was turned over to police. Her lawyer said she had received death threats and wanted to be assured of her safety.

Napoles has been accused of illegally detaining a former aide who accused her of stealing huge amounts of government development funds, derisively called pork-barrel funds, in conspiracy with powerful lawmakers. She has denied any wrongdoing but was ordered arrested by authorities, with Aquino announcing a 10 million peso ($227,000) bounty for her capture.

Philippine media reports of her lavish lifestyle, including the alleged ownership of an array of elegant houses and condominiums, have angered many Filipinos in a country where nearly a third of the 97 million people live on a little over a dollar a day and about a tenth have left the country in search of jobs and better opportunities abroad.

Amid an outrage expressed on social media, tens of thousands of Filipinos massed up at Manila's Rizal Park Monday to demand the scrapping of the corruption-tainted development fund and called on Aquino to crack down harder on corruption. Aquino, son of revered pro-democracy champions, rose to power in 2010 with a landslide victory on a promise to fight corruption and poverty.

It was one of the largest rallies seen in the Philippines since the huge protests that hounded Aquino's predecessor Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, who faced allegations of massive corruption. Arroyo has denied any wrongdoing but has been detained in a hospital on corruption and election fraud charges.

AP

In this Wednesday, Aug. 28, 2013 photo released by Malacanang Palace, Janet Lim-Napoles, center, a wealthy businesswoman who is at the center of a corruption scandal, goes through security check at Malacanang Palace following her surrender late Wednesday to President Benigno Aquino III, not in the photo, in Manila, Philippines.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

2 Chinese killed in boat accident in Thailand

BANGKOK (AP)—Two Chinese tourists were killed and four other people were injured Wednesday in a speed boat accident at a popular seaside town in Thailand, police said. The speed boat, which was carrying 20 Chinese tourists, crashed into a glass-bottom boat anchored near a pier in the resort town of Pattaya, said Police Col. Suwan Cheawnavinthavat. He said two of the tourists were thrown from the boat and suffered fatal cuts from its propellers. Two Thais, including the boat's driver, and two other Chinese were injured. Suwan said the speed boat became entangled in the anchored boat's rope before it crashed.

SKorea spy agency probing alleged insurgency plot

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korea's spy agency arrested three members of a small opposition party Wednesday for allegedly plotting an insurgency to overthrow the government, party officials said, the first arrests in recent years on such anti-government charges. National Intelligence Service officials confirmed the arrests of at least one United Progressive Party member and raided the offices of unidentified party officials, but did not say how many were taken into custody. The officials spoke on of condition of anonymity, citing department rules, and refused to give more details.

China confirms raid on alleged terror cell

BEIJING (AP)—China confirmed Wednesday that police conducted a raid last week on an alleged terrorist cell in the restive northwestern region of Xinjiang, although details about the death toll and identities of those killed in the bloody incident remain sketchy. Officials have refused to discuss the Aug. 20 incident, the latest in a series of clashes this year that have killed dozens of people and led to scores of arrests. However, the official Kashgar Daily newspaper reported the raid in an article Wednesday on a memorial service held for policeman Yan Xiaofei, who was killed in the clash.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd floor-Oleai Joeten Commercial Center
Saipan, MP 96950

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
DPW/FHWA-13-RFP-011

Saipan – Tinian Route Ferry Service Feasibility Study for Inter-Island Marine Public Transportation System, CNMI

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Jude Hofschneider,, through the Department of Public Works (DPW), are soliciting sealed proposals from qualified firms to examine and prepare the economic feasibility of establishing and developing a publicly owned and privately operated ferry service in the form of a contract with the public entity for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Inter-Island Marine Public Transportation System between the Islands of Saipan and Tinian that expands both passenger and auto services as described in the Statement of Work of this RFP.

This project is funded in whole using Federal-aid Highway funds administered under the Department of Public Works. The project funding limit authorized by the grantor shall not exceed $170,000.00 unless additional funding has been identified by the CNMI Government.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001. Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with **§70-30.3-210** of the regulations.

The RFP Package including consultant qualification requirements, proposal submittal requirements, and Scope of Work will be made available on or after **August 2, 2013** at the Department of Public Works, Office of the Secretary, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Saipan. A mandatory Pre-Proposal Conference is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center on September 3, 2013. Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to Mr. Vicente C. Cabrera, Acting Director of Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commerc ial Center Saipan, or faxed to (670) 234-3547 no later than 4:30 p.m. local time September 17, 2013.

Evaluation Criteria
Submitted proposals will be evaluated by the Evaluation Committee assigned by the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority Commonwealth Public Transportation Advisory Board, Office of the Governor based on the following four criterion with the following weights: (1) Relevant Experience and Qualifications of the firm (30%); (2) Proposed Approach (30%); (3) Schedule of Completion (20%) and Demonstrated Capacity and Ability to Perform the Work Required (20%). Proposers must submit with their proposal the required information for each criteria as further described in the Statement of Work. These ranking factors are summarized in the table below.

The total proposal submitted shall be no more than fifty (50) pages in length. Note that a firm, which submits a proposal as a prime consultant, cannot submit as a subcontractor on another proposal. However, only subcontractors may be included in multiple proposals by different consultants.

Pre-Contract Requirements
Prior to being awarded a contract for professional consulting services, the firm or company must have submitted the following:

a) A valid CNMI Business License to perform such services;
b) Have a certification stating the firm has no pending federal or local court judgment(s) or cases against the firm in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; and
c) Certification Regarding Debarment and Suspension.

The firm shall be responsible for obtaining proper licenses, permits, clearances, or authorizations for the proper execution of a contract within the CNMI as required by law.

For any contract or subcontract related to the study/analysis of any project funded in whole or in part with Federal-aid Highway funds, the proposal submitted for the contract, is required to show what the indirect cost (overhead cost not associated with any one particular project defined under 48 CFR §31.203) associated with the project are, to state how the indirect cost figure was reached, and to certify (pursuant to Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Order No. 4470.1A that they are allowable costs under 48 CFR §31.2.

Award shall be made to the firm whose proposal is most advantageous to the government.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all submittals and bear all risk concerning delivery.

Proposal Submittal
Sealed proposals must be marked **"DPW/FHWA-13-RFP-011"**. For Proposers within the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of proposals must be submitted no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, September 20, 2013 to the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement & Supply, Lower Base, Saipan. Proposers located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to Propose must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, September 20, 2013, and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For Proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than September 20, 2013 AND must be received no later than October 1, 2013. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

These projects are funded in part through a grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation. Contract award is contingent upon funding approval by the Department of Transportation (DOT).

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer(s) awarded a contract for the project, including excise tax.

The government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so, would be in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/s/ MARTIN C. SABLAN
Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, Procurement & Supply

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Gualo Rai, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW13-IFB-006

Governor Eloy S. Inos, and Lt. Governor Jude P. Hofschneider, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids proposal for the ***Repair and Renovation of Proposed Garapan Public Market, Garapan Fishing Base, Saipan,*** Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after August 23, 2013 at the Department of Public Works, Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars ($250.00) is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division. All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001.

There will be a ***Pre-bid Conference*** for this project on September 03, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. local time at the Project Site, ***Proposed Farmers Market, Garapan Fishing Base,*** Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 2:30 p.m. local time on September 06, 2013 to ***Mr. Vicente C. Cabrera, Acting Director, Technical Services Division,*** 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW13-IFB-006".** For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time September 12, 2013. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time September 12, 2013, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than September 12, 2013, and must be received no later than September 20, 2013. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 9:30 a.m. local time, September 23, 2013, However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 9:30 a.m. local time, on September 14, 2013.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars **($25,000.00)** a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security shall be on a bid bond, no cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the Certificate of Authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General be pre-approved prior to bid submission. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond In the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Island, and

b) Under penalty of perjury, a certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceeds the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash
2) US Government Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is One hundred and Twenty (120) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages will be assessed at Two Hundred Dollars (US $200.00) per calendar day for delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ MARTIN C. SABLAN
Secretary of Public Works

/s/ARNOLD I. PALACIOS
Secretary of Department of Land and Natural Resouces

/s/HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement and Supply

World

Survivors describe horrors of suspected gas attack

BEIRUT (AP)—The early-morning barrage against rebel-held areas around the Syrian capital immediately seemed different this time: The rockets made a strange, whistling noise.

Seconds after one hit near his home west of Damascus, Qusai Zakarya says, he couldn't breathe, and he desperately punched himself in the chest to get air.

Meanwhile, in rebel-held areas east of Damascus, hundreds of suffocating, twitching victims were flooding into makeshift hospitals following a similar rocket barrage. Others were later found dead in their homes, towels still on their faces from

This image provided by by Shaam News Network on Thursday, Aug. 22, 2013, which has been authenticated based on its contents and other AP reporting, purports to show several bodies being buried in a suburb of Damascus, Syria during a funeral on Wednesday, Aug. 21, 2013.

AP

their last moments trying to protect themselves.

In a series of interviews with The Associated Press after the suspected poison-gas attack on Aug. 21, witnesses, survivors and doctors described scenes of horror they say will haunt them forever.

Activists and the group Doctors Without Borders say at least 355 people died in the attack that has provoked international condemnation and shocked a world that had grown largely numb to the carnage of Syria's civil war, which has killed more than 100,000 people in 2 1/2 years. Fueling the outrage were online videos that showed scores of children killed in the attack.

Convinced that President Bashar Assad's regime was responsible for the attack—a charge Syrian officials strongly deny—the U.S. and its allies are now hurtling toward military action, though they have not yet presented concrete proof.

U.N. chemical weapons experts this week took biological samples from several victims—a step U.S. officials said came too late. But they are not seeking to answer the question of who was responsible for the attack, just whether chemical agents were involved.

Witnesses interviewed by the AP say they can't prove it but strongly believe government forces were responsible, saying that it is consistent with the nature of Assad's regime and that nobody else had the capability to fire such weapons.

The U.S. administration, meanwhile, is said to be preparing a report for key members of Congress laying out the evidence against the Assad government. A declassified version was to be released to the public, but so far that has not happened.

"To suggest that the rebels did it is simply ridiculous. ... Why would they hit themselves with chemicals?" asked Ammar, a resident who said he miraculously survived the barrage on Moadamiyeh, where 80 people were killed. He declined to give his full name because he was afraid for his life.

In Loving Memory

†Elizabeth Sablan Torres-Untalan

Lovingly known as "Beck/Liz"
May 2, 1953 – August 26, 2013

In Her New Life, She Now Joins:
PARENTS: †William Salas Torres and †Rosa Sablan Torres
ANGEL BROTHER: †Joaquin Sablan Torres
SON: †William Gerard Torres

Her Memories Will Forever Live In The Hearts of Her:
Spouse: **Pedro T. Untalan**, Children and Grandchildren

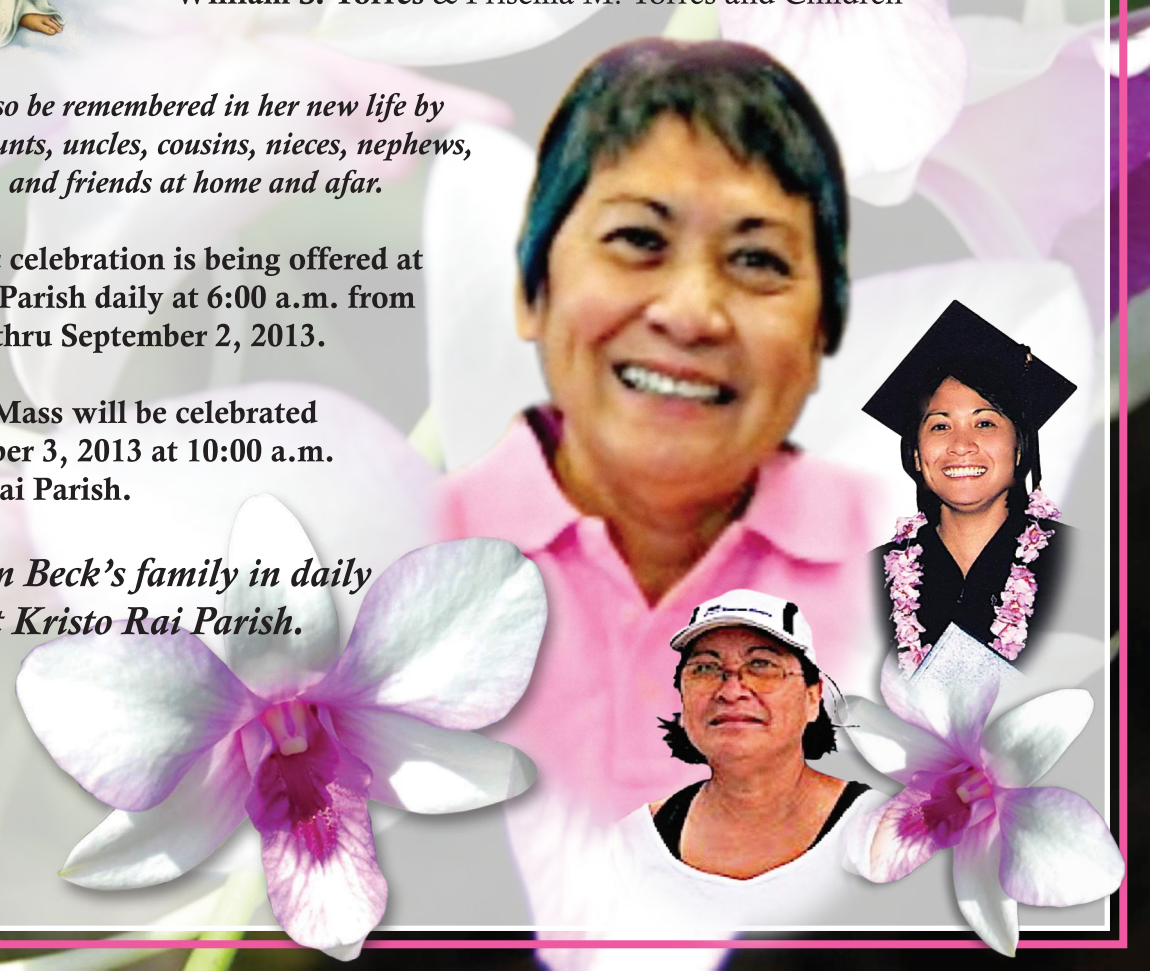
Siblings & In-Laws:
Juan S. Torres & Janet F. Torres, Children and Grandchildren.
Joaquin S. Torres & Diane V. Torres, Children and Grandchildren
Maria T. Persson & Jon G. Persson, Children and Grandchildren
Ramon S. Torres & Lillian Wong
William S. Torres & Priscilla M. Torres and Children

Beck will also be remembered in her new life by numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, godchildren, and friends at home and afar.

Eucharistic celebration is being offered at Kristo Rai Parish daily at 6:00 a.m. from August 26 thru September 2, 2013.

Memorial Mass will be celebrated on September 3, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. at Kristo Rai Parish.

Please join Beck's family in daily prayers at Kristo Rai Parish.



WORLD BRIEFS

Iraq bombings, house raid kill at least 80 people

BAGHDAD (AP)—Car bomb blasts and other explosions tore through mainly Shiite districts around Baghdad during morning rush hour Wednesday in a day of violence that killed at least 80, intensifying worries about Iraq's ability to tame the spiraling mayhem gripping the country. Most of Wednesday's attacks happened in within minutes of each other as people headed to work or were out shopping early in the day. Insurgents unleashed explosives-laden cars, suicide bombers and other bombs that targeted parking lots, outdoor markets and restaurants in predominantly Shiite areas in and around Baghdad, officials said. A military convoy was hit south of the capital.

Angry teachers paralyze Mexico City with protests

MEXICO CITY (AP)—This sprawling metropolis of honking cars and 22 million harried people has been brought to its knees, not by an earthquake or its ominous smoking volcanoes, but rather a small contingent of angry school teachers. Some 10,000 educators protesting a government reform program have in the span of a week disrupted international air travel, forced the cancellation of two major soccer matches, rerouted the planned route of the marathon and jammed up already traffic-choked freeways. The disruptions have shown how little it takes to push a city that is snarled on a good day over the edge.

Egypt police arrest Brotherhood members' relatives

CAIRO (AP)—Egyptian authorities detained more than 60 people associated with the Muslim Brotherhood in less than 24 hours, including relatives of the group's leaders, officials said Wednesday. The crackdown on the group, from which ousted President Mohammed Morsi hails, started shortly after the July 3 coup. It intensified this month after security forces cleared out two of the group's sit-ins, killing hundreds and sparking unrest that killed more than 1,000 people in a few days. The Interior Ministry says more than 100 policemen and soldiers have also been killed since mid-August.

Flood traps 26 hikers for hours in Austrian cave

VIENNA (AP)—Twenty-six hikers in western Austria have been rescued after being trapped for hours in a cave by a flash flood. Rescue officials said the hikers were cut off from the outside world early Wednesday when heavy rain caused water to flood the entrance to the cave near St. Martin, a town about 320 kilometers (200 miles) west of Vienna. Rescue official Gernot Salzmann said emergency crews were in constant voice contact with the group during its ordeal. All the hikers were reported safe and uninjured after the floodwaters receded and they were able to leave the cave Wednesday afternoon. Austrian officials initially said 27 people were trapped but later reduced that number to 26.

Off The Wall

Ohio couple married 65 years die 11 hours apart

DAYTON, Ohio (AP)—Relatives of an Ohio couple who died at a nursing home 11 hours apart on the same day said their love story's ending reflects their devotion over 65 years of marriage.

Harold and Ruth Knapke died in their shared room on Aug. 11, days before their 66th anniversary, The Dayton Daily News reported. He was 91, she was 89.

The couple's daughters said they believe their father willed himself to stay by his wife's side despite failing health until they could take the next step in their journey together. He went first—his children saw it as his "final act of love"—and she followed.

"We believe he wanted to accompany her out of this life and into the next one, and he did," daughter Margaret Knapke said.

The couple had known each other as children and began their courtship as pen pals while Harold, known as "Doc," served in the Army during World War II. Ruth would later joke: "I let him chase me until I caught him!"

Her husband became a teacher, coach and athletic director at Fort Recovery Schools, the newspaper said. They raised six children while looking after each other with a devotion that didn't seem to diminish.

A photo taken this summer shows him lying in a bed, arm stretched through a guardrail to hold her hand, as she leans in to press the top of her head to his. When she was ailing, he blessed her each night with holy water, daughter Pat Simon said.

The Knapkes had a joint funeral Mass, with granddaughters carrying Ruth's casket and grandsons carrying Harold's casket.

This June 2013 photo provided by the Knapke family shows Harold and Ruth Knapke. AP

Doctor: Ohio man revives 45 minutes after his heart stops

WEST CARROLLTON, Ohio (AP)—A man whose heart stopped beating for 45 minutes credits his faith for being alive and says stunned doctors who declared him dead aren't sure what happened.

The body of diesel mechanic Tony Yahle was being prepared by nurses to be seen by his family Aug. 5 when he began to show signs of life, doctors said. He fully awakened at the hospital five days later.

Yahle, a 37-year-old West Carrollton resident, has been a topic of conversation since, said cardiologist Dr. Raja Nazir.

"In the last 20 years, I've never seen anybody who we have pronounced dead ... and then for him to come back, I've never seen it," Nazir told the Dayton Daily News. "Actually, I've never heard of it."

Yahle says it's a miracle and that doctors couldn't find any defects in his heart. Their last guess was that it was all the result of a possible viral infection, he said.

Yahle's teenage son said he spoke to his father shortly before he revived, the newspaper reported Tuesday.

"I pointed at him and said, `Dad, you're not going to die today,'" said 18-year-old Lawrence Yahle. "I stood there for a few more seconds. I was about to walk back to comfort the family, and that's when he started showing signs of a heartbeat."

The teen said he "went from hopeless to hope in an instant."

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Fur real: Colonel Meow's 9-inch hair sets record

LOS ANGELES (AP)—This is fur real. Colonel Meow has 9-inch hair. That's good enough to put the Himalayan-Persian mix into the 2014 edition of the Guinness World Records book, due out Sept. 12. Owners Anne Marie Avey and Eric Rosario, of Los Angeles, say the 2-year-old cat got its name because of his epic frown and fur. It takes both of them to brush the cat's fur three times a week. Three independent veterinarians verified the length of the colonel's hair and submitted their findings to Guinness before he won the title. Avey says the 10-pound cat has his own website, Facebook page and YouTube channel with more than 2 million views.

Marijuana-wrapped arrow shot at Wash. jail

BELLINGHAM, Wash. (AP)—A man is accused of trying to get marijuana into a Washington state jail by attaching it to an arrow he shot onto the roof. A Whatcom County sheriff's employee saw the man step out of his pickup truck and use a bow to launch the arrow toward the jail's second-floor recreation area, but it missed its target. Sheriff Bill Elfo says the man, identified as 36-year-old David Wayne Jordan, was arrested for investigation of introducing contraband into the jail, resisting arrest and obstructing law enforcement. The Bellingham Herald reports Jordan served 20 days in the jail earlier this month for assault and resisting arrest.

Pa. clown couple ties the knot, no foolin'

LANCASTER, Pa. (AP)—If the key to a long marriage is laughter, these clowns are set. Billy Tedeski and Patty Kulwicki tied the knot Friday at an annual clown festival in central Pennsylvania. The (Harrisburg) Patriot-News reports Kulwicki literally reeled Tedeski in to start the ceremony—a bit the Pittsburgh couple had performed at Clownfest two years ago. Tedeski wore a fake nose, black lipstick and full clown regalia as he exchanged vows with Kulwicki at the festival in Lancaster. The bride wore the same dress she'd used in the skit two years ago, plus a lace headband to go along with her flame-red wig. Guests got in on the act and so did the officiant, a fellow clown.

DEATH & FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

In Celebration of His New Life

Enrique Borja Cruz

Better known as "Iki Okoro" or "Iki Dasu"

Born on September 29, 1944, Peacefully joined his creator on August 22, 2013

In his new life, he now joins his:

Wife: *†Ana Rangamar Cruz*
Daughter: *†Margaret R. Cruz*
Parents: *†Federico and †Antonia B. Cruz*
Parents-in-Law: *†Ernesto and †Maria I. Rangamar*
Siblings: *†Ana C. and Vicente Arriola, †Antonio Cruz, †Mariana C. and †Roberto Guzman, †Ricardo and †Gemma Cruz, †Monica C. Lizama, & †Maria Cruz*
In-Laws: *†Dolores R. and† Joaquin W. Rabauliman, †Luis I. Rangamar, †Lorenzo I. Rangamar, †Vicente I. Rangamar, †Delgadina R. Rios and †Francisco Rios, †Fidelia R. Merur, †Ricardo I. Rangamar & Luciano Rangamar*

His loving memory will forever live in the hearts of his:

Sisters: *Susana C. and Isidoro T. Cabrera , Candelaria C. and Daniel Jose*
Children: *Ernest Patrick R. Cruz and Rita I. (Children)*
Zenovia C. Deleon Guerrero and Jesus DLG (Children & Grandchildren)
Tricia Rangamar and Ike Epina (Children)
Tina C. Rahman and Habibur R. (Children & Grandchildren)
Enrique R. Cruz Jr. (Children)
Federico R. Cruz and Xiao Fang Y. (Children)
Nolan R. Cruz and Lisa DLG (Children)
Neilani R. Cruz and Emiling L.
Marvin R. Cruz and Lori Ann B. (Children)
Sylvan and Adora Tudela
Florence Cepeda (Children)

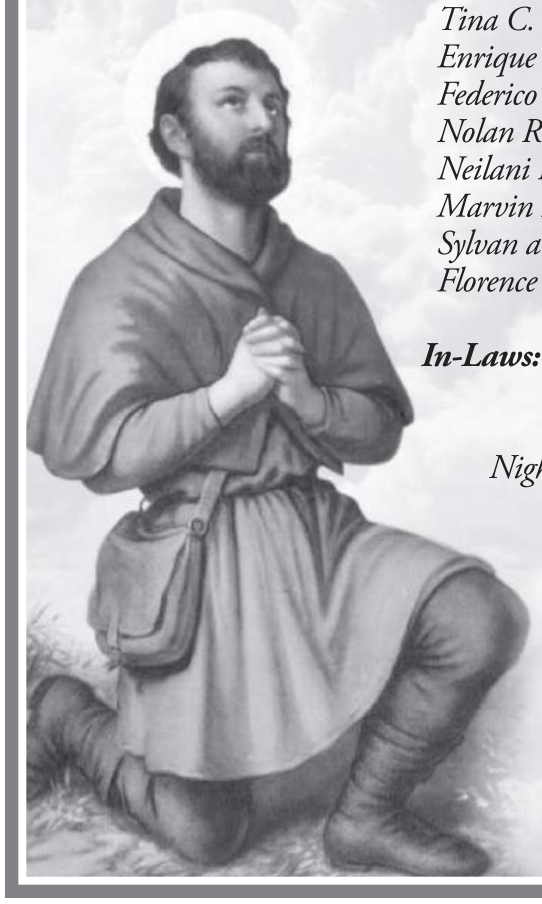
In-Laws: *Lourdes M. Rangamar, Rafael I. Rangamar, Daniel I. Rangamar & Emiliana K. Rangamar*

Nightly Rosary is at 7:30 pm at Federico Cruz residence located at Garapan next to YCO Hardware.

On August 31, 2013 at 7:00 am, his remains will be escorted from CHC to Federico Cruz residence for the last viewing, followed by the Mass of Christian Burial at 11:00 am in Kristo Rai Church.

Please join us in prayers.

Thank You, Si Yu'us Ma'ase and Ghilisoow
THE FAMILY



Science & Technology

Get dialed in on how to safeguard your smartphones

By PARESH DAVE
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Remember the sneaky trick played by software makers? Download a free program and somehow it would automatically install an unwanted "search toolbar" on your computer's Internet browser.

That annoying ploy hasn't disappeared on mobile phones. At least 50 million Android smartphones have downloaded a free application from the Google Play store called Brightest Flashlight Free that installs an unnecessary search feature on phones.

The app activates a phone's camera light when launched—helpful. But it also has by default permission to display ads, track the phone's location and take photographs and video. That means the makers of the app could see what users are doing and where they are.

Besides not falling for the download-the-free-app trick, what other protections should you consider for your mobile device?

First, turn on the "screen lock" function on your device. It's in the phone's "settings" menu. It's annoying to constantly unlock a phone, but smartphone makers say they are working on making it more of a natural process in future devices.

Next, remember to turn off GPS and Wi-Fi when you don't need them because they could be used by location-tracking apps to figure out where you are. The switches to turn them on and off are also in the settings menu.

Now, to the big question: Is there a need for anti-virus programs for mobile devices?

With iPhones and iPads, users have to entrust their privacy and protection solely to Apple Inc.

But with the Google Inc.-developed Android operating system, Google's policy of "openness" means not everything goes through the company. Security and anti-virus apps can bring Android smartphone and tablet owners some extra peace of mind.

Many of the apps are ahead of the curve compared with Google in providing usable information about how apps affect your mobile device, what data they collect and what happens to that information.

Google says it's not aware of any security holes in Android-powered devices that result in a need for outside help. But some customers may feel more comfortable having another layer of protection or the user's employer might require it, said Adrian Ludwig, Android's lead security engineer.

"We're very conscious of that, and nothing in any way prevents a user from having a second security product," he said.

Because Android users in the U.S. are familiar with Google and use it for most of their activities, including downloading apps, few run into issues. Foreign users are more likely to download phone viruses or malicious software that's typically designed to steal money from users.

Still, it's a smart move for everyone to go to the device's security settings screen and check the box next to "Verify apps." This will turn on Google's anti-virus protection.

Google says the most common threat is apps that secretly bill a user's credit card by sending a "premium" text message to a hacker. The charge appears on cellphone bills but is often overlooked. The latest version of Android warns users several times that an app could be sending such text messages.

Another Android problem is that sometimes what seems like a scary request for permissions is actually legitimate. An app may need to access call logs to know not to disturb a user while he or she is on a call. Many security apps are now helping users learn more about these pesky permission requests. They can also block people from visiting fake websites or being scammed.

Although there are many apps that cost money, some free apps have nearly identical features. Free options include TrustGo Antivirus & Mobile Security, Sophos Free Antivirus and Security, and Avast.

Among paid apps, Lookout Mobile Security dominates the industry because it's automatically distributed on many Samsung and T-Mobile phones, according to the research firm MarketsandMarkets.

After Lookout are big names such as Trend Micro Mobile Security & Antivirus, Norton Security Antivirus and McAfee Antivirus & Security. They all charge about $30 a year.

Bitdefender costs $10 a year but doesn't include any privacy features. Bitdefender and F-Secure are good options for people who use the Google Chrome Internet browser on their mobile device.

Beware of fake security apps that appear to have the same name or same features as those listed above. They can allow hackers to control your device.

Analysts say the features packed in the security apps might eventually show up in Android, but Google may not yet have the security expertise to develop them. Ludwig says Android adds outside security features when there is demand for them.

Buying the latest gadget poses risk

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

QUESTION: I bought a Windows RT tablet computer from Asus in January. But now I've read that Asus is pulling its support for Windows RT (a downsized version of Windows 8 that ran on tablet computers that used special processor chips.)

If this is an inadequate product, what, if anything, can the consumer do to get recompense?—Jesica Conrad, Bemidji, Minn.

ANSWER: You're in a tough spot. While we all like to have the latest technology, buying it carries some risks because there's no way to know which gadgets will succeed and which will fail.

Unfortunately, you purchased a computer that failed in the marketplace. Most consumers didn't like Windows RT tablets because they had limited functionality compared with Windows 8.

Based on disappointing sales, Asus and most other manufacturers of the Windows RT tablet have dropped the product. Even Microsoft, which continues to offer Windows RT devices, couldn't sell as many as it expected. As a result, Microsoft took a $900 million write-off on its own unsold Windows RT tablets earlier this year.

That said, your device will continue to operate as it always did. But there probably will be no software updates, and repair service might be difficult to find.

I know of no way to get your money back in a situation like this.

■ ■ ■ ■

Q: I recently bought a Windows 8 PC, but found that the text on the screen is displayed as gray, which is very difficult to read when using software such as Internet Explorer 10 or Microsoft Word or Excel.

The only solution seems to be changing the colors on the screen, so that I get green letters on a black screen. The trouble is that some applications display black letters, which are then invisible against the black background.

Do you think the problem is the display screen or Windows 8?—Neal Atkins, Miami Beach, Fla.

A: I don't think the problem is the monitor, the PC or Windows 8. It sounds as if you've installed an Adobe desktop publishing program on your PC that uses the "OpenType Font," a font gives printed letters their characteristic typefaces, sizes and spacing.

Windows 8 comes with the TrueType Font, but it also can use the OpenType Font. But some Windows 8 programs, such as Internet Explorer 10, aren't compatible with the OpenType Font. Others, such as Word 2010, require some tinkering.

To use the OpenType Font with Word, first turn on Word's OpenType feature. Microsoft describes how to do so on their support website, at http://tinyurl.com/mhkyjm3.

You also might have to change the printer installed on your PC. Word limits its font capabilities to what a printer can reproduce. You can work around this problem by installing the software driver for a different printer, even if you aren't really using that printer. See http://tinyurl.com/kjho9zt.

Steve Alexander covers technology for the Minneapolis Star Tribune. *Readers may write to him at Tech Q&A, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488-0002; email: steve.j.alexander@gmail.com. Please include a full name, city and phone number.*

Nintendo cuts price of Wii U game console by $50

WASHINGTON (AP)—Nintendo Co. announced Wednesday that it is cutting the price of its Wii U video-game system as it braces for the fall release of competing consoles from Sony and Microsoft.

Nintendo will reduce the price of the Wii U deluxe set from $349.99 to $299.99, effective September 20. The company will also release a Wii U bundle featuring "The Legend of Zelda: The Wind Waker HD," a remake of the 2003 game, that will also be available September 20 for $299.99.

The Wii U has struggled to find an audience. Nintendo sold 3.61 million of the consoles between the Wii U's launch last November and the end of June. The company aims to sell 9 million Wii U units over the fiscal year through March 2014.

Nintendo of America President Reggie Fils-Aime said in an interview that consumers who have bought the Wii U "love the system" but want more software. Nintendo's game releases for the rest of 2013 include "Super Mario 3D World," "Donkey Kong Country: Tropical Freeze," "Wii Party U" and "Wii Fit U."

"As long as we create high-quality software we will be able to drive our business," Fils-Aime said. Regarding the price cut, he said: "Now is the right time to offer better value. This sets us up for a strong holiday season."

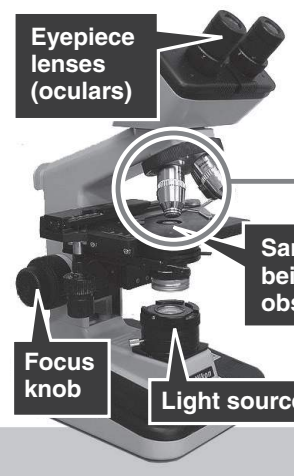
Sony's new console, the PlayStation 4, is due November 15 with a $399 price tag. Microsoft has not announced an exact launch date for its new Xbox One, which will cost $499.

Nintendo also announced a new handheld gaming device that will join its successful DS line. The Nintendo 2DS, coming Oct. 12 for $129.99, will play all DS and 3DS games—although it will not display the latter games' three-dimensional graphics. Like Nintendo's DS models, the 2DS has two screens; unlike them, it does not fold up. Fils-Aime said the 2DS is intended to appeal to "the entry-level consumer looking for lower-priced access to a fantastic library."

Science Matters

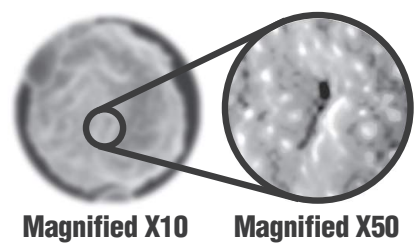
Easy upgrade to a super-scope

Researchers have developed a $200 modification that turns an ordinary microscope into a billion-pixel high power imaging system that may revolutionize the work of pathology labs.


Eyepiece lenses (oculars)
Objective lens (stack of small magnifying lenses) creates the sharpness dilemma
Sample being observed
Focus knob
Light source

Wide view vs. sharp image

It's simple physics; a microscope can either show fine detail of a small area or a fuzzy image of a larger area

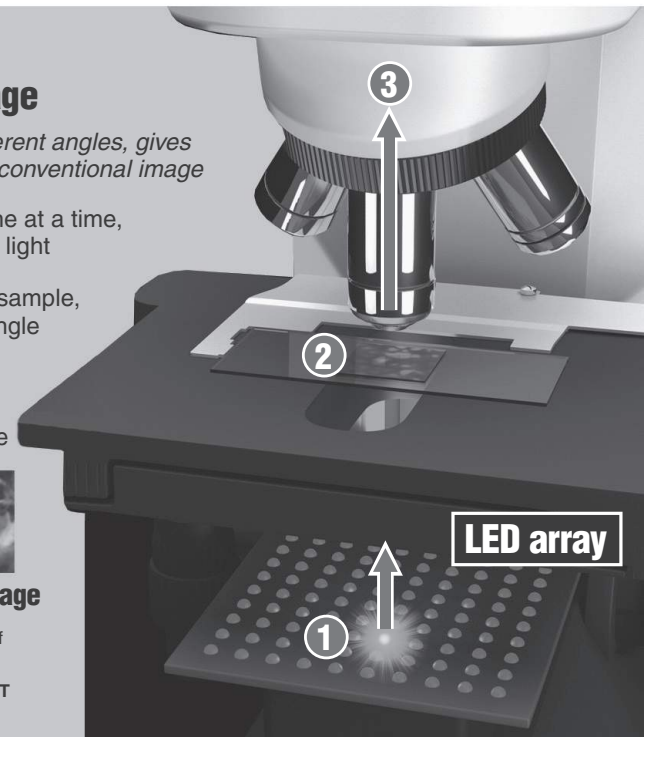


Malaria-infected red blood cell

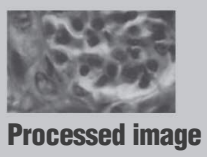
Computer sharpens image

LEDs illuminate sample from different angles, gives 100 times more information than conventional image

1. **LED lights** shine upward one at a time, making about 150 beams of light
2. **Light beams** pass through sample, each at a slightly different angle
3. **Light passes** up into digital camera; computer stitches 150 images into a single one



Raw image



Processed image

Source: Guoan Zheng of California Institute of Technology, Nature Photonics, U.S. National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
Graphic: Helen Lee McComas © 2013 MCT

Life & Style

A rough road back to 'Riddick' for Vin Diesel

UNIVERSAL CITY, Calif. (AP)—Thump. Thump.

That's the sound the golf cart makes each time it strikes the uneven pavement as it transports Vin Diesel across the Universal Studios backlot. He's traveling from his bungalow office to a screening room where "Riddick" crew members have gathered to watch the third installment of the sci-fi series starring the 46-year-old actor-producer as an extraterrestrial ex-con.

"It's such a victory that this movie is going to be in theaters," he says in his signature growly tone.

Indeed, when it comes to "Riddick," Diesel is all too familiar with hitting bumps in the road. It took the "Fast & Furious" star nearly a decade (and millions of dollars in fundraising) to bring his see-in-the-dark anti-hero back to the big screen. Universal had jettisoned a possible third edition after 2004's "Chronicles of Riddick" didn't soar at the box office.

Despite the fact "Chronicles of Riddick" and its 2000 predecessor "Pitch Black," as well as a pair of "Riddick" video games, amassed a cult following, it seemed like Riddick would be forever lost in space.

However, Diesel remained undeterred. He worked with series writer-director David Twohy to resuscitate Riddick, obtaining the film rights after Universal passed.

"I started in the independent (film) world, but this was a new level of challenge for me," said Diesel.

He treated the sequel just like an indie film project, not unlike the 1990s self-funded movies "Multi-Facial" and "Strays," which first transformed the burly New Yorker from bouncer to actor-producer. Between filming "Fast & Furious" movies, he traveled to Germany with Twohy to woo enough investors to convince the studio to come back on board.

AP

In this Tuesday, Aug. 20, 2013 photo, actor Vin Diesel poses for a portrait at NBC Universal in Universal City, Calif.

"This character struck a chord," said Diesel, who points to his 46 million Facebook fans as the reason for taking several risks —including almost leveraging his own house when bills couldn't be paid—to recover Riddick. "He's tangible for them. I think the idea of a character that has been misread, overlooked and given up on is very fascinating to people."

The original "Pitch Black," which introduced the ruthless Richard B. Riddick amid an eclectic group of spaceship crash survivors, cost $23 million and went on to earn $53 million worldwide. The follow-up heavily expanded on the first film's spacey mythology and budget. It cost $105 million but wasn't ultimately a blockbuster, bringing in a so-so $115 million worldwide.

"Riddick," which opens Sept. 6 and leanly cost between $35 and $40 million, blends elements from both chapters, keeping the ornate look of "Chronicles" but dispatching with its PG-13 interstellar politics in favor of the R-rated terror of "Pitch Black." The film strands the Furyan bad boy on a desolate planet where he's hunted by dueling bands of mercenaries.

"For both of us, it was like going home again," said Twohy. "No matter what part of the world we're in, whether it's the Australian outback where we shot 'Pitch Black,' or Vancouver where we filmed the second movie, or inside an old train depot in Montreal where we shot 'Riddick,' it just feels like home when we're together making a Riddick movie."

With the revivals of "Fast & Furious" and "Riddick" now under his belt, Diesel feels reinvigorated about his other passion project: a trilogy in which he'd play Carthaginian commander Hannibal Barca, the audacious general who marched across the Alps to challenge the Roman Empire. It's another bumpy venture Diesel has been working on for the better part of a decade.

But first, Diesel says he's revving up for the seventh "Fast & Furious," which begins shooting next month in Atlanta and Los Angeles, and Marvel's "Guardians of the Galaxy," in which he'll portray the tree-like alien Groot. For the former street performer, it'll mark his first foray into motion-capture acting—and playing a character known for delivering just one line: "I am Groot."

"The idea of bringing that physicality to a CGI character always tantalized me," he said. "To strip away everything is insane. In this case, the voice plays heavily into it, too. I don't know what kind of dialogue will be in it, but even if it stayed true to character, there's so much one can do with 'I am Groot.' It's the kind of challenge very few actors ever get."

'Simpsons' creator finds funny in his cancer fight

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Since word got out about Sam Simon's cancer, this co-creator of "The Simpsons" and fervent philanthropist has heard from many people online asking to help rid him of his sizable wealth.

"Some people just want a million dollars. Or help with college tuition. And the rest have business propositions," he chortles. "Like that should be my legacy: to lose money on your movie or your moisturizer line.

"I'm bedridden," says Simon, milking the scenario for all its tragicomic worth, "weighing whether to dole my money to people lined up outside the house!"

He laughs, flashing a piano-keys grin. Then he gets serious.

"I'm supporting the charities that I supported during my lifetime," he states, "and I want to continue to do that." With every cent of his fortune.

Simon

Simon, 58, isn't exactly bedridden. For this recent interview he has presented himself, sporty in sweater and slacks, to meet with a reporter in the guest house of his swank estate in Pacific Palisades.

He pads into the kitchen and makes himself a coffee before firing up a robust Cuban cigar, then alternately sits and reclines on a wall-length banquette that looks out on his lawn of statuary, including one of the original casts of Auguste Rodin's "The Thinker."

Fitting. Sam Simon has had much to think about since his advanced colon cancer was diagnosed last November after a year of inconclusive tests and mysterious discomfort.

Having defied that diagnosis' original death sentence—he was given three to six months to live—Simon continues to push ahead with no whiff of "Why me?"

"Instead, I think, `This is a really bad situation—and what else can I do to get out of it?'"

What he's doing right now is mobilizing a dozen lines of attack, some traditional, some wacky. But he says one of his new medications weighs him down with fatigue.

"Is this Monday?" he wonders aloud. "I think I've been sleeping since Friday. I'd rather be nauseous than tired, I think."

Pick your poison. Simon is living the nightmare of anyone who so far has been spared cruel evidence of one's own mortality. But Simon seems to frame it mostly with a laugh or a shrug.

Maybe that befits a world-class wag who has long thumbed his nose at authority and other human vanities, who has lampooned the human condition with insight and humor for an audience of millions, and been richly rewarded for his labors.

Simon grew up comfortably in Beverly Hills, but his father was in the garment industry, not show biz, which puts him at a loss to account for his comedic gifts (never mind Groucho Marx lived across the street).

After turning his drawing talent into a job at an animation studio that made cartoons for kids, Simon submitted a script, on spec, to the glorious ABC comedy "Taxi." His script was bought and produced, and Simon, in his 20s, was hired as a staff writer and soon rose to be the showrunner.

From there he joined a new NBC sitcom called "Cheers," where he was staff writer for its ascendant first three seasons.

In 1987 he became a writer and executive producer on the Fox comedy series "The Tracey Ullman Show," teamed alongside James L. Brooks, the comedy legend with whom he had worked on "Cheers" and "Taxi," and, of course, cartoonist Matt Groening. They became the founding fathers of "The Simpsons."

"The Simpsons" began as interstitial cartoon clips aired during the otherwise live-action "Ullman" show until, in 1989, it was spun off as a Fox half-hour of its own. Simon was named creative supervisor, and he hired the first writing staff as well as creating several Springfield citizens, including Mr. Burns, the cadaverous industrialist, and Dr. Hibbert, the buffoonish physician.

URGENT NEED OF A CAREGIVER!

LIVE-IN
$600.00 (monthly)

For more details please contact:
Judi C. Fujihira
234-7427 • 256-0246 • 287-8298

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT #02-2013

Opening date: August 30, 2013 **Closing date: September 13, 2013**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) announces the following job vacancy:

Position:

(2) ARFF Trainee (Saipan)	(1) Radio Operator/Weather Observer (Rota)
(2) AOA Controller-I (Saipan)	(1) Ports Police/ARFF Trainee (Tinian)
(3) Ports Police Trainee (Saipan)	(1) Radio Operator/Weather Observer (Tinian)
(1) Receptionist/Secretary (Saipan)	(2) Ports Police/ARFF Trainee (Rota)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. Failure to provide any of the required documents may result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents is no later than ***4:30 p.m., Friday, September 13, 2013.***

Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions shall be picked up along with the application form during regular working hours at the CPA's Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Saipan International Airport, Arrival Wing. For more information, please contact the CPA Human Resources by email at acmanahane@cpa.gov.mp or by phone at (670) 237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

MaryAnn Q. Lizama
Acting Executive Director

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Job Category: Construction Manager

Job Duties & Responsibilities:
- Responsible for administration of construction contract works, and assist the Project Manager with prompt exchange of correspondence, submittals, and RFI's to all contractors.
- Orient, assign, and supervise the construction inspection staff on a daily basis so that all contractor activities are adequately covered.
- Supervising and remain vigilant regarding all aspects of the construction activities. Respond with appropriate and necessary levels of construction supervision to provide quality assurance in accordance with contract documents.
- Coordinating the interface of the construction work with other contractors on the site. Orient inspectors to verify that contractor is following his approved site Health & Safety plan.
- Assisting the Client and PM team in negotiations with the contractor regarding the value of claims or changes in schedule.
- Reviewing the contractor's progress at all times. Monitor the material incorporated in the work, the materials stored at the site, and the contractor's manpower and equipment.
- Attending weekly, monthly, and other progress meetings AS required by the Clients. Identify constraints and recommend corrective measures.
- Reviewing inspector's daily reports and preparation of engineer's daily diary, and general oversight of inspector's daily activities including works assignments, on-site performance, and guidance on the supervision of the contractor's operations.
- Coordinating with contractor's supervisory personnel regarding schedule, sequence, and method of work.
- Continuous inspections and consultation with the SRE including the preparation of written and oral reports to the PM on contractual and procedural matters.
- Specific Skills Required;
  - o Excellent working knowledge of industry practices/safety/quality management systems.
  - o High level of critical thinking skills.
  - o High level of management skills.
  - o Clear verbal communication skills.
  - o Understanding of contract documents and specifications.

Qualification requirements:
- At least Bachelor's/College Degree in Engineering (Civil), Engineering (Others) or equivalent.
- At least 5 year(s) of working experience in the related field is required for this position.
- Preferably Supervisor / 5 Yrs & Up Experienced Employees specializing in Engineering-Civil/Construction/Structural or equivalent. Job role in Civil Engineer or equivalent.
- Computer Literate; Excel, Word, MS Project, AutoCAD, etc.

Company: SSFM CNMI LLC
Salary: Commensurate with qualification and experience.
Address: Chalan Pal'e Arnold Street, 2nd Floor, Tun Kiku's Building, Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950
Email: jparas@ssfmcnmillc.com and rbanayat@ssfmcnmillc.com
Telephone Nos.: 233-7770/2, look for Jam/Rosita

Doctor: Jackson sought propofol long before death

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Michael Jackson requested the anesthetic propofol to help him sleep at least a decade before he died from an overdose of the drug, a doctor testified Wednesday.

Dr. Christine Quinn said Jackson summoned her to a Beverly Hills hotel in 1998 or 1999 and asked her to give him propofol.

The request came after she met the entertainer while he was undergoing dental procedures. She said she refused the request and told Jackson it wasn't appropriate to use anesthesia as a sleep aid.

"I told him that the sleep you get with anesthesia is not real sleep, not restful sleep," Quinn said.

Jackson responded by saying his time under anesthesia was the best sleep he had ever had, she testified.

Jackson died in 2009 from an overdose of propofol that was administered in the singer's bedroom by Conrad Murray, who was later convicted of involuntary manslaughter.

Quinn was testifying for the defense in a negligent hiring lawsuit filed by Jackson's mother against AEG Live LLC, the promoters of the singer's ill-fated comeback concerts. AEG denies it hired Murray.

Quinn said she gave Jackson anesthesia for procedures done after the meeting at the hotel. He never asked for propofol after the meeting or requested that he be kept under for longer than was medically necessary, she said.

Jurors also heard Wednesday from Cherilyn Lee, a nurse practitioner who said Jackson said he needed propofol to help him sleep in April 2009, a little more than two months before his death. Lee said she warned Jackson that propofol was unsafe for home use and he might not wake up, but the singer insisted that doctors told him he would be fine as long as he was monitored.

"His demeanor was, `I have to have this. I have to have this to sleep. You don't understand, I have not had a good night's sleep,'" Lee said.

Lee did not give propofol to Jackson.

AEG Live has called a number of Jackson's former doctors to testify.

One expert hired by the company, Dr. Petros Levounis, told jurors on Tuesday that Jackson exhibited signs that he was doctor shopping and trying to find medical practitioners who would give him opioid medications.

Attorneys for Jackson's mother have acknowledged the singer struggled with prescription medications but said he generally received anesthesia and medications during medical and dental procedures.

They rejected the characterization of Jackson as an addict.

Patton, Thicke have clear lines on jealousy, work

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Paula Patton is having the best summer ever.

Professionally, the 37-year-old actress is busy promoting the romantic comedy "Baggage Claim," which opens Sept. 27. "2 Guns," starring Patton, Denzel Washington and Mark Wahlberg, opened earlier this month.

Personally, Patton is relishing the success of her husband, Robin Thicke, who has the catchy summer hit, "Blurred Lines."

"You couldn't have planned this better. It's a really odd, wonderful coincidence," said Patton of their simultaneous career highs.

"We celebrate in the kitchen late at night after we put our son to sleep, and we're like, 'Can you believe this?'" she said with a high-pitched squeal. "And then we do things like (tell each other) 'drive the speed limit,' 'don't mess around.' It's like 'don't mess this up!'"

In an interview earlier this month, Patton talked about prepping Thicke for her sexy on-camera scenes and said a healthy dose of jealousy is the key to a lasting relationship.

AP

In this Feb. 24, 2013 file photo, Paula Patton and Robin Thicke arrive at the 2013 Vanity Fair Oscars Viewing and After Party at the Sunset Plaza Hotel in West Hollywood, Calif.

AP: What does Robin think about your "Baggage Claim" makeout scenes with Derek Luke, Boris Kodjoe and Djimon Hounsou?

Patton: I always prep him for the sexy scenes. I mean the moment he's not a little jealous is the day that I'm very worried, OK? And I think he feels the same way. You have to have a little bit of jealousy. But mostly it's happiness for each other because we've known each other since we were kids and we dreamt the same dream together and we know how hard it's been. It's had its peaks and its valleys. It's a marathon. So when you have great moments like this, or when you just get to work, quite frankly, you're just so thankful that you can kind of overlook the things that might hurt a little bit.

AP: In the film, your character faces a lot pressure to get married and start a family. Did you experience anything like that?

Patton: You know a little bit because my husband and I met when we were so young and then we lived together, 'lived in sin,' and then we had a long engagement. It was sort of that 'is it ever going to happen?' But we were so young. We were just kind of having fun.

AP: Will you pressure your kids to settle down?

Patton: I wouldn't do that, no. I find that so archaic to be honest. I'm not really a traditional person that way. I don't think people need to follow anybody's rules but their own. Follow your heart.

AP: Did your son visit you on the movie set?

Patton: My son came to visit me a lot, but there's a lot of scenes that you just don't want 'why are you kissing a man that's not daddy?' That's just not good. That's not healthy for a 2-year-old. He's three now, but that could scar him. You know what I mean? So it was a lot of set (visits) to the trailer. He wasn't there for the Boris Kodjoe makeout scene. I can tell you that much.

AP: What if he sees the movie one day?

Patton: Eventually he will and listen, that's part of the deal. No one's parents are perfect. You're going to have to suffer a little humiliation of having to see mommy do these things. It's the way it's going to go.

AP: What's your secret to balancing motherhood and your career?

Patton: You just sleep a lot less. Always tired. Always. I'd be lying to you if I told you something different.

AP: What has motherhood taught you?

Patton: That's it's given me great perspective, made me a lot less self-involved. Maybe before if you lose a role or something happens and you just sit in your bed all day and cry. There's no time for that (now). Somebody needs to eat, they want to go to the park, and it's great because it puts life in perspective and those moments become a lot smaller and a lot less significant once you have a child.

AP: What is it like to experience such personal and professional fulfillment?

Patton: I feel like my son has been a lucky charm. I really do. I don't know what it is and I do think children can be lucky charms. You have to treat them with reverence and respect and discipline, but he did somehow. With him he brought many gifts.

REGAL CINEMAS
Bargain Shows ( ) ★Pass/Discount Restrictions Apply
REFILLABLE POPCORN BUCKET $3 REFILLS ALL YEAR LONG!
SAIPAN MEGAPLEX 7
Near Joeten Superstore in San Jose MP
1-800-FANDANGO 1484#

STAR TREK / WORLD WARZ 3D (PG-13) Fri.(400 PM) 855 PM Sat. - Sun.(100 PM) 600 PM Mon.(400 PM)

MORTAL INSTRUMENTS [CC,DV] (PG-13) Fri.(405 PM) 705 PM 1005 PM Sat.(105 405) 705 1005 Sun.(105 PM 405 PM) 705 PM

ELYSIUM [CC] (R) Fri. - Sat.700 PM 945 PM Sun.700 PM

PLANES [CC,DV] (PG) Fri.(445 PM) 710 PM 930 PM Sat.(225 445) 710 930 Sun.(225 PM 445 PM) 710 PM Mon.(445 PM)

PERCY JACKSON: SEA OF MONSTERS [CC,DV] (PG) Fri.725 PM Sat. - Sun.(125 PM) 725 PM Mon.725 PM

PERCY JACKSON: SEA OF MONSTERS 3D [CC,DV] (PG) Fri. - Sat.(425 PM) 1020 PM Sun. - Mon.(425 PM)

WE'RE THE MILLERS [CC,DV] (R) Fri.(420 PM) 720 PM 1000 PM Sat.(120 420) 720 1000 Sun.(120 PM 420 PM) 720 PM

MONSTERS UNIVERSITY [CC] (G) Fri.(410 PM) Sat. - Sun.(110 PM 410 PM)

Times For 08/30-09/02 ©2013 www.REGmovies.com

Sandra Bullock shows dancer's poise in 'Gravity'

VENICE, Italy (AP)—Sandra Bullock is trapped in a bulky space suit for most of Alfonso Cuaron's space odyssey "Gravity," which has her adrift in space tethered to a wise-cracking George Clooney. But the role nonetheless required a dancer's poise.

Bullock's Dr. Ryan Stone is stranded hundreds of miles above Earth with veteran astronaut Matt Kowalsky, played by Clooney, when debris destroys their space shuttle on her first mission. Bullock said Wednesday that she called on her dancer's training for the role, in which she both spiraled through deep space heavily suited and floated gracefully through a space station in stretch shorts and a tank top.

"Dancing did help. We are operating at very slow speeds, and I'm a fast mover," Bullock told a news conference ahead of the film's world premiere opening the Venice Film Festival.

Clooney said moving abnormally slowly to simulate movement in space while speaking quickly "is the trickiest thing you have ever done," but that Bullock, who started shooting before him and spends considerably more screen time moving freely, had it nailed by the time he arrived on set. "It was absolutely stunning what she was doing," he said.

Much of the film was shot inside a 9-foot-by-9-foot box, inside of which the actors were suspended by cables, with their lower halves inside a contraption, while objects were hurled toward them, the actors said. For Bullock, the conditions created a sense of extreme isolation not unlike that felt by her character. "George and I were rarely together, but If I could hear his voice I would feel better. I was grateful for any human contact, even if it was just a breath," she said.

Bullock

Director Cuaron consulted with astronauts and physicists to portray how objects would behave in space as realistically as possible. He said the technical challenges combined "the worse-case scenarios for live action and the worse-case scenarios for animation. In both cases, our brain is used to operating from the standpoint of gravity and weight."

"Gravity" is shot in 3-D, which gives depth to the character's experience of having debris hurtle toward them or seeing pens, ping pong paddles or statuettes float by.

While the film is a space adventure full of action sequences, Cuaron also said the journey into space was rife with metaphors. Bullock's Dr. Stone, a brilliant scientist who is in space to install technology for NASA that she created, has suffered a tragedy that has made her give up on life, and retreat to the precision of her work.

"From the get-go, when we decided to go into space, it was very obvious the metaphorical value of space. You have a character who is drifting from her own inertia. On the one hand, she has life, she has planet Earth human connection, on the other hand she is drifting," the director said.

Bullock said she wanted to portray the character's loss through physical perfection, and worked hard to get into top shape.

"I wanted her to lose everything feminine or maternal about her. I wanted to get the body to be a machine that was effective for her brain," Bullock said. She trained daily on the set and said carrying around her son also helps her to keep in shape.

"I have a 40-pound 3-year-old who still is a baby and insists on being carried," Bullock said.

Clooney's regime was a bit lighter.

"Sandy and I did a lot of Bikram yoga together," Clooney cracked, adding, "I just mostly drank my way into the job."

Clooney deftly deferred a question over possible U.S. intervention in Syria, saying "I actually thought you would ask me about Ben Affleck playing Batman. But no, it's Syria."

Zeta-Jones and Douglas 'taking some time apart'

NEW YORK (AP)—A spokeswoman for Catherine Zeta-Jones says the actress and her husband, Michael Douglas, "are taking some time apart to evaluate and work on their marriage."

Publicist Cece Yorke said in an email to The Associated Press on Wednesday that there would be no further comment. A phone call to a representative for Douglas wasn't immediately returned.

People magazine, citing unnamed sources, first reported that Zeta-Jones and Douglas had decided to spend time apart.

Zeta-Jones, 43, and Douglas, 68, were married in 2000. They have two children. He battled throat cancer in 2010 and made headlines this summer when he spoke out about one potential cause, oral sex.

In a Oct. 20, 2007 file photo, actors Catherine Zeta-Jones,left, and Michael Douglas are interviewed by members of the media as they arrive at "A Fine Romance" third annual benefit at Sony Pictures in Culver City, Calif. AP

Sting's wife Trudie Styler to star off-Broadway

NEW YORK (AP)—Actress and producer Trudie Styler, the better half of pop singer Sting, will star this fall in a new off-Broadway adaptation of Anton Chekhov's "The Seagull."

Producers said Wednesday that Styler will portray the fading actress Irina Arkadina in the Culture Project's version of the classic work adapted by Thomas Kilroy and directed by Max Stafford Clark. This version will be set in late 19th century Ireland.

The rest of the cast includes Rufus Collins, Alan Cox, Stella Feehily, Slate Holmgren, Rachel Spencer Hewitt, Ryan David O'Byrne, Amanda Quaid, Tim Ruddy and Kenneth Ryan.

Previews begin Oct. 3 and opening night is set for Oct. 13.

Styler's acting career began with the Royal Shakespeare Company and she made regular appearances on British TV during the 1980s as well as in many film roles. Her acting credits include the BBC series "Love Soup" and the film "The Next Three Days" with Russell Crowe. She has helped produce "Girl Most Likely" with Kristen Wiig and "Black Nativity" with Forest Whitaker.

She and Sting were married in 1992 and they also founded The Rainforest Fund, a charitable foundation dedicated to the preservation of the rainforest by defending the rights of the indigenous peoples. She also has put out yoga videos.

Elton John's partner opening Vegas champagne bar

LAS VEGAS (AP)—David Furnish is planning to open a swanky champagne lounge in the same Las Vegas Strip casino where his partner, Sir Elton John, holds a residency.

The nearly 3,000-square-foot FIZZ Las Vegas bar is set to debut this fall at Caesars Palace. Developers promise caviar, charcuterie and small plates to complement the champagne and other cocktails.

Furnish says he spends so much time in Las Vegas while Elton John performs his show, "The Million Dollar Piano," that the couple wanted a space to reflect their personal style.

The $3.2 million venue will be modeled after their home in Los Angeles and will feature photography from the pair's personal collection. Managers describe the aesthetic as a "glam-chic" throwback to 1970s designer David Hicks.

Eads taking leave from 'CSI,' return uncertain

NEW YORK (AP)—The investigators on CBS's "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation" will be without forensic scientist Nick Stokes for a while.

CBS said Wednesday that George Eads is taking a leave of absence after appearing in the show's first three episodes of the upcoming season.

Eads has portrayed Stokes since the series premiere in 2000. It's unclear when or if he'll return.

CBS won't comment on a Hollywood Reporter story that Eads got into an argument with a writer on the show about his character.

Eads' manager hasn't returned messages seeking comment.

"CSI" was the 20th most popular show on TV last week, watched by 5.8 million people.

In this Aug. 3, 2009 file photo, actor George Eads arrives at the CBS CW Showtime Summer press tour party in San Marino, Calif. AP

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Bertolucci hopes to be surprised by Venice entries

VENICE, Italy (AP)—Oscar-winning director Bernardo Bertolucci initially didn't want to head the Venice Film Festival's jury, saying it's "tremendously tiring." But the 73-year-old Italian said he "caved in" after festival director Alberto Barbera wrote a letter in which "he succeeded to present some responsibilities I would have for cinema, above all for those who are starting out." "Probably after the festival I will return to Rome and I will burn that letter," Bertolucci said Wednesday on the film fest's opening day. The 70th edition kicked off Wednesday with Sandra Bullock and George Clooney starring in the 3D space odyssey "Gravity," which made its world premiere out of competition. Contenders for the coveted Golden Lion include Terry Gilliam's "The Zero Theorem," Peter Landesman's "Parkland" and Kelly Reichardt's "Night Moves." Prizes will be announced Sept. 7.

Oprah: King forced US to wake up, change

WASHINGTON (AP)—Oprah Winfrey says Martin Luther King Jr. forced the nation "to wake up, look at itself and eventually change." She says the civil rights leader's lessons inspire people all over the world. Speaking at the March on Washington ceremonies Wednesday, Winfrey said King recognized that Americans shared the same dreams and that their hopes weren't different based on race. She says King was right when he said all Americans' destinies are intertwined and would rise or fall based on how people treat their neighbors. Winfrey, a media mogul, says she asked her mother as a 9-year-old girl why her family wasn't there for the march. Winfrey says it took her 50 years, but she finally arrived on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial to mark the anniversary of King's march.

Mumford & Sons perform at Forest Hills reopening

NEW YORK (AP)—Mumford & Sons has played the first concert at the Forest Hills stadium in Queens—which once hosted acts from Jimi Hendrix to the Rolling Stones—in more than 20 years. The Grammy-winning British rockers performed a sold-out concert Wednesday for 16,000 fans at the stadium's West Side Tennis Club, which hosted the U.S. Open until 1978. The band even showed some athleticism: The foursome played tennis onstage—using a racket at times, and a guitar and banjo at others. They also threw balls to fans in the crowd. Mumford & Sons electrified the crowd, even when it rained lightly, playing the well-known rock hits "Little Lion Man," "I Will Wait" and "The Cave," as well as other songs from their two multiplatinum albums.

Clooney: Satellite over Sudan curbing fighting

VENICE, Italy (AP)—Actor George Clooney says a satellite project over Sudan that he helped found has curbed violence, at least during daylight. Clooney said Wednesday at the Venice Film Festival that the Satellite Sentinel Project, which uses satellite imagery to monitor acts of war over areas between Sudan and South Sudan, has been "incredibly successful." He says "now the attacks are only happening at night or under cloud cover. So now we'll switch that up to infrared." Clooney has long worked to prevent conflict in Sudan and South Sudan. South Sudan peacefully broke away from Sudan in 2011, but tensions between the countries, especially over oil, remain high. Clooney is in Venice for the world premiere of "Gravity," in which he and Sandra Bullock play astronauts adrift in space.

Daughter's body tattoos are slap in the face to parents

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have two beautiful, hardworking daughters we brought up as loving, respectful parents. Recently, "Kellie," 25, got tattoos covering her right arm, leg and ankle as well as her shoulders. They are visible unless she wears long sleeves and long pants.

This has ruined our relationship because it shows how little she thinks of us as parents, and how disrespectful of our feelings she is to put the tattoos where everyone can see them. She knows we don't like tattoos because we have mentioned it to her and voiced our disappointment when she got the first one on her ankle.

I can't sleep at night or look at my daughter knowing how little she cares about our feelings. I feel it's a slap in the face that she doesn't honor, respect or love us. What do you think?

BESIDE MYSELF IN FORT WORTH

DEAR BESIDE YOURSELF: I think it is time you toned down the high drama. What's done is done. If you do not appreciate the person your daughter is BENEATH her skin, you will lose her. And THAT would be a tragedy!

DEAR ABBY: I have a 20-plus-year high school friend who is fighting ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease). I have developed a close relationship with him and his parents. His mom has shared some of his comments with me, but he hasn't shared those thoughts with me himself. The comments are, "I want to die," or, "I want to go home to God."

I think listening and being a supportive friend is what I can do for him, but I'm at a loss as to what to say to his mother. I don't know what advice to give her so she can be supportive in her conversations with her dying son.

DEEP SORROW IN OHIO

DEAR DEEP SORROW: I agree that listening and being supportive is what you can do best for your friend. When the son raises the subject again with his mother, she should tell him that she loves him and will see that his wishes are carried out, even though losing him will be losing a part of herself.

When you see the mother again, ask if he has an advance directive for medical decisions in place. In it, a person can specify that only palliative care is preferred.

A group that offers guidance in drafting these important documents—and one to which I contribute—is Compassion and Choices. The toll-free number is 800-247-7421. If your friend does not have an advance directive, it's important that he make one now.

DEAR ABBY: Our across-the-street neighbors feel they need to mow their lawn three (excessive) times a week. This includes using a weed-eater and two mowers—a push mower and a large riding mower. Quite often, the husband chooses to mow after 8 p.m. He doesn't work and could do it during the morning hours if he wants it cooler.

The noise is loud and extremely disruptive, and lasts about an hour because he goes over and over the same area. We work and would like to enjoy the few hours we have in the evening and relax. Any ideas?

TIRED OF THE NOISE IN MONTANA

DEAR TIRED OF THE NOISE: If you're on speaking terms with this neighbor, you should ask him if he would please manicure his lawn at a different time because the noise is disruptive. If he is unwilling to cooperate, check with the city to find out if there are any noise ordinances in place. If there are, you can report the noise as a nuisance.

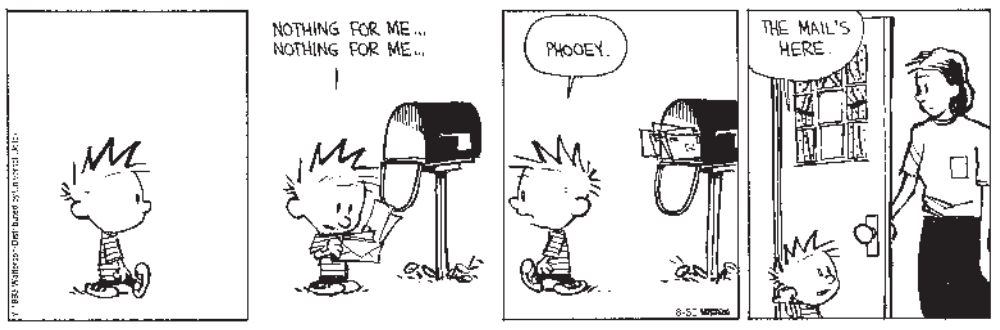
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



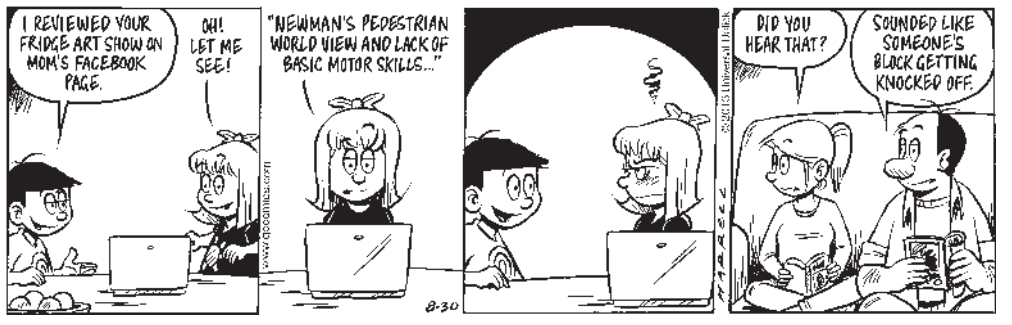
Garfield®

By Jim Davis

MY ACCORDION IS MISSING!
OH, MY. HOW TRAGIC
CAN YOU IMAGINE ANYTHING MORE TRAGIC THAN THAT, GARFIELD?
NO, NOTHING MORE TRAGIC THAN THAT
SAAAY...
JIM DAVIS 8-30

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


I REVIEWED YOUR FRIDGE ART SHOW ON MOM'S FACEBOOK PAGE.
OH! LET ME SEE!
"NEWMAN'S PEDESTRIAN WORLD VIEW AND LACK OF BASIC MOTOR SKILLS..."
DID YOU HEAR THAT?
SOUNDED LIKE SOMEONE'S BLOCK GETTING KNOCKED OFF.
8-30

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

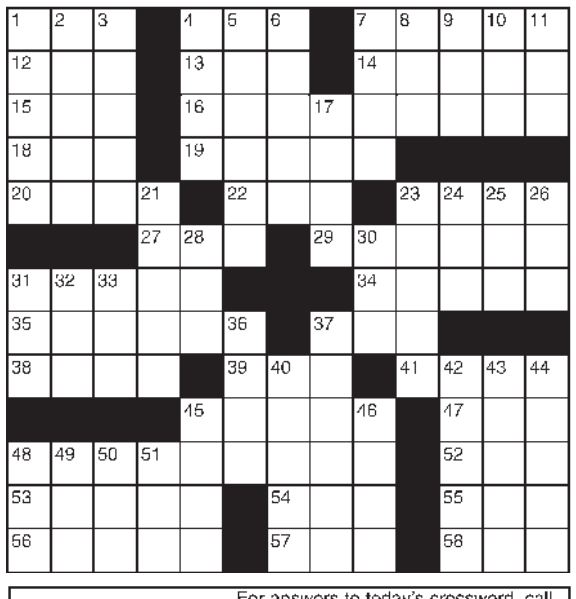
ACROSS
1 Exist
4 Trot
7 "The emperor — clothes"
12 Started
13 Sapporo sash
14 Cockeyed
15 Lemieux milieu
16 X, often
18 Vagrant
19 Win every game
20 Basra's land
22 Every last bit
23 2012 Best Picture Oscar winner
27 Grecian vessel
29 Join up
31 Winter warmer
34 Shipping container
35 "Angels We Have Heard —"
37 "See ya"
38 Italy's silhouette
39 Carte intro
41 Pre-diploma hurdle
45 Obliterate
47 Actor Stephen
48 Counter-culture mag since 1974
52 "Entourage" role
53 Scent
54 Venomous viper
55 Yang counterpart
56 Squads
57 Pigs' digs
58 Witness

DOWN
1 Proof of innocence, maybe
2 Happen again
3 Plant swelling
4 Writes in the margins
5 "Star Wars" role
6 Third Hebrew letter
7 Padlocked fastener
8 Fool
9 Tackle moguls
10 Pos. opposite
11 Possess
17 Slithery ones
21 Throwing-game ring
23 Match
24 Genetic abbr.
25 Understood
26 Inseparable
28 Old garment
30 Unfriendly
31 Male swan
32 Lennon's lady
33 Comical Margaret
36 Mata —
37 Most contemptible
40 Actor Lorenzo
42 MRIs' ancestors
43 Eagle's home
44 Down East
45 Greek vowels
46 Catch sight of
48 Chapeau
49 Incense
50 — long way
51 "Let me think ..."

Solution time: 25 mins.

H	I	M	■	L	O	N	E	■	H	U	T	S
E	R	A	■	E	B	O	N	■	A	G	H	A
M	A	G	I	C	I	A	N	■	C	L	A	N
■	■	■	R	A	T	■	H	U	L	K	I	N	G
C	H	I	M	E	S	■	I	A	N	■	■	■
O	U	T	■	R	A	G	■	M	E	M	O	S
O	R	T	S	■	P	I	P	■	Y	A	D	A
S	T	E	A	L	■	G	A	S	■	G	I	N
■	■	■	V	A	S	■	S	T	O	N	E	S
T	A	X	I	C	A	B	■	R	I	O	■	■
E	U	R	O	■	M	A	G	E	L	L	A	N
S	T	A	R	■	B	I	A	S	■	I	D	O
T	O	Y	S	■	A	L	P	S	■	A	S	S

Yesterday's answer 8-30



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Andy Roddick, 31; Lisa Ling, 40; Cameron Diaz, 41; Michael Chiklis, 50.

Happy Birthday: Diversify and you will be able to parlay one job into another. Working toward a formula you can use in several different applications will help you expand your interests and your income. You will have to avoid over-indulgence or taking on too much. Set boundaries and use your skills masterfully in order to get the most for the least. Your numbers are 9, 16, 26, 29, 31, 37, 48.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Accept the inevitable. Personal change will leave you questioning what's next. Take on a challenge that will help get you into shape mentally and physically. Embrace new beginnings and learn from past mistakes. Minimize problems by curbing impulsive behavior. ✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Jump into action and take control of a situation that has the potential to turn sour if you don't intervene. Your courage, determination and practicality will convince others to take heed of what you suggest and offer. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Problems deciphering what someone wants or expects from you will surface. Ask direct questions but use your charm and diplomacy to ensure that you don't raise suspicion. Positive change based on the way you handle situations and people is coming your way. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Don't feel pressured to make a change or to indulge in something that doesn't interest you. Make your objectives clear and show others how disciplined you can be. Turn the tables on anyone pushing you and push back. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Being helpful will encourage others to return the favor. Make positive changes to the way you live and the people with whom you fraternize. Consider ways to use your skills and talents in ways that fit the current economic market. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Question what doesn't make sense and be honest when assessing a personal situation, even if it disappoints you. You cannot move forward successfully without understanding where you have come from. Open up, be honest and strive to be your best. ✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Keep life simple. Don't let the little things bother you. You'll be inclined to overreact or attract melodramatic people who like to meddle. Make whatever little motions or alterations you can to keep the peace and remain calm. ✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Learn from each experience, but back away from no-win situations. Protect what you have worked so hard to achieve and refrain from taking risks or chances. Gather information and plan your actions carefully. Stick close to home and plan your financial strategy. ✪✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): You can offer suggestions but don't allow anyone to take advantage of you. Call in favors and work on your own successes. Prosperity is within reach, but your motives have to be genuine. A better living arrangement will lift your spirits. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Put more time and effort into your plans for the future. Firm up deals or revisit pending settlements or contracts that you want to pursue. Partnerships that are unstable should be re-evaluated. Let your intuition guide you. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): A change will help you view your current situation from a different perspective. The more information you gather, the easier it will be to make the changes to your finances, personal contracts or your relationship with someone you love. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Follow through with your plans. Make changes to your home that will make your life easier. Expand your interests and your friendships with people who are after similar goals. A financial gain is apparent if you invest, sign contracts or collect debts. ✪✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are adaptable, sensitive and open to suggestions. You are imaginative and insightful.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

2				9				3
	5						2	
			4		1			
		9	2		7	4		
1				8				9
		7	6		9	3		
			5		8			
	7						5	
3				6				1

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 8/30

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

8	4	3	1	7	2	6	5	9
7	5	9	8	6	4	3	1	2
2	1	6	3	5	9	8	7	4
4	6	1	2	8	7	5	9	3
3	7	5	9	1	6	2	4	8
9	8	2	4	3	5	1	6	7
1	2	7	6	4	8	9	3	5
5	3	8	7	9	1	4	2	6
6	9	4	5	2	3	7	8	1

Difficulty Level ★★★ 8/29

©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

PROCRASTINATION Solution: 6 letters

E	L	C	K	D	P	F	K	T	Y	P	E	E	L	S
R	T	A	O	A	Y	E	C	L	D	E	R	A	W	A
U	U	A	I	U	E	A	A	U	U	I	N	T	H	D
T	L	T	R	N	N	R	L	S	T	O	O	T	T	A
A	A	T	E	T	E	S	B	E	S	Ⓟ	R	V	L	P
N	T	E	S	I	S	D	E	R	D	O	Ⓛ	A	A	T
O	N	N	E	N	M	U	E	L	P	F	Z	Ⓔ	E	I
I	E	T	A	G	Y	P	R	P	I	Y	A	E	Ⓗ	V
T	M	I	R	T	L	T	U	F	O	N	T	C	B	E
C	O	O	C	N	T	S	E	L	E	A	G	R	T	S
E	C	N	H	E	S	L	U	I	S	I	A	O	D	T
F	R	E	E	V	O	A	L	K	X	I	L	F	N	E
R	E	E	M	E	C	O	A	F	N	N	V	E	I	E
E	V	D	I	R	F	G	V	S	T	C	A	E	B	M
P	O	S	T	P	O	N	I	N	G	N	I	L	D	I

© 2013 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com Join us on Facebook 8/30

Acts, Adaptive, Anxiety, Attention, Avoid, Aware, Belief, Bind, Brain, Break, Costly, Counseling, Daunting, Delay, Denial, Esteem, Fact, Fear, Force, Frustrate, Goals, Health, Help, Idling, Impulsive, Lack, Lazy, Mental, Nature, Needs, Overcome, Perfection, Personal, Postponing, Prevent, Research, Result, Sleep, Study, Support, Task, Time, Value

Yesterday's Answer: Wrapped

To purchase **THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 33, 34, 35, 36 or 37**, call 1-800-642-6480. Order online at wonderword.universaluclick.com. (Contains 43 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

WANTED

Retired American. Looking for girlfriend. Please call 788-2099 or 285-7764.

EMPLOYMENT

(1) Dental Therapist- $40/hr. Send Resume to Tooth Works at P.O. Box 504699 Saipan, MP 96950

SALES EXECUTIVE Experience in rent-car sales & internet sales preferred. Korean and Chinese language knowledge preferred. Resume to SangJee Rent Car, Email: stimes@korea.com PMB 573, Box 10000, Saipan MP 96950.

3 STOREY BUILDING
FOR SALE or RENT
- 1st Floor – COMMERCIAL SPACE
- 2nd Floor APT UNITS Fully Furnished
  Three (3) 2 bedrooms, 1bathroom
- 3rd Floor – APT UNIT Fully Furnished
  One (1) 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom

Location: Beach Road, near Microl Toyota
Call Erick at 235-3133/287-9012

APARTMENT FOR RENT
• 3 Bedroom with 2 Bathrooms
Wooden flooring, Schedule for Hot Water, Fully furnished, windy place.
2nd Floor $450.00

Located in Chalan Kanoa next to the beach - Ocean view.
Call 235-3004 or Text 989-1027

Warehouse for RENT
REM GUALO RAI
Warehouse #3 - Size: 4,000sq/ft
Warehouse #2 - Size: 2,000sq/ft
$0.65 per sq/ft. Negotiable
REM LOWERBASE
Warehouse #4 - Size: 9,000sq/ft
Warehouse #2 - Size: 6,000sq/ft
$0.65 per sq/ft. Negotiable
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEAS CALL 235-6527/28 or 285-1317

Agape Christian School

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

1 English Instructor

U.S. Citizen, Green card or EAD holder preferred.

If interested, please email your resume to pangfamilysaipan@gmail.com or call 989-8488 after 3pm.

Computer Repair
Only $10 Student Laptop
Restore OS Call for more info.
FREE LCD REPLACEMENT
Calvatron 233-5641
Open: Monday-Saturday 9:00am - 7:00pm
www.calvatron.net

Newly Renovated HOUSE FOR RENT
(Tottottville House No. 9, available August 1st) 4-BR Concrete, 2Bath, Carport, Semi-furnished, A/C, All New-Fridge, Gas stove w/Gas tank, Water Heater, 2-1000 gal water tank, Lavish ceramic tiles. Fresh interior/exterior paint and more. Must see to appreciate. Serious inquiries only. Call 285-3663, email seewes@gmail.com after July 28, 2013.

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT
(2) Finishing Carpenter/Mason
with 10 years experience. Salary negotiable.
Please submit resume to Bespren Development dba Five Star Builders Corporation
Tel. # 789-7938/233-6927

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Realty Management Services

Fina Sisu Terraces
Small 1-BR, 1-BTH. Unit approximately 284 sq.ft. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted.
$250/month

Ocean View Terraces
(Navy Hill)
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view.
$600/month

Sunset View Terraces
(Navy Hill)
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view.
$550/month

LNH Apartments
(Lower Navy Hill)
Small 3BR & 2BTH. Unit approximately 600 sq.ft. EPA Solar Water Heater.
$450/month

FEATURES:
- **Fully Furnished**
- **Back-up Generator**
- **Air-conditioning in all rooms**
- **FREE WiFi**
- **Laundry Area**
- **Nighttime Security**
- **Ample Parking**
- **24hr water**

Please visit our website at www.saipan-properties.com Call for an appointment 235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

JOB OPPORTUNITY
LEGAL SECRETARY

Our office has an immediate opening for a legal secretary. Previous experience as a secretary, fluency in the English language, and a strong work ethic are essential.

If you qualify, please send a cover letter, a copy of your resume, proof of your eligibility for employment in the CNMI, and a police clearance, to mwhite@saipan.com. Please, no telephone calls.

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ.
The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC

3A'S POLYSHINE
Home of 'V-KOOL'
is looking for the following positions

UPHOLSTERERS: 2 Positions (SAIPAN & GUAM)
- Considerable knowledge of the practices and methods of upholstery works, and the use of machinery and equipment for upholstering.
- Ability to make upholstery and other repairs to furniture and interior of vehicles.
- Good knowledge of upholstery materials selections.
- Salary: Negotiable

Window film installer "Film Specialist": 3 Positions (SAIPAN & GUAM)
- Considerable knowledge of the industrial practices of adhesive window film installation.
- Ability to work with varieties of window films and window glass surfaces and must not afraid of height.
- Ability to work independent with minimum supervision.
- Salary: Negotiable

Special consideration will be given to any individual who is eager to pursue a professional career as a "Film Specialist or Upholsterer.

Submit a typed resume or call 670-235-8938 to arrange for an interview before or on September 9th, 2013 at 3A'S POLYSHINE, CK, Beach Road.

D&Q Saipan Co., Ltd
is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following position:

ACCOUNTANT

BA in Accounting and a minimum of 3 years experience is required, including preparation of financial statements, processing accounts receivables & payables and other general accounting procedures. Must possess work-related skills, have knowledge & experience in purchasing, inventory control and bank reconciliation. Proficient in various computer software: MS Excel, Word, Outlook and ACCPAC/Sage or similar accounting system. Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Interested applicants must submit an application and/or resume at our Saipan office located in the C.T.S.I. building, Lower Base, by September 14, 2013. Applications may also be sent to: mpk@dandq-international.com. The successful applicant will be required to provide a police clearance.

D&Q is an equal opportunity employer and has a drug free work environment.
Pre-employment and random drug testing may be required.

JOB VACANCY ANOUNCEMENTS

(25) CARPENTER - Rate $5.60 to $6.75/hr
Must be a High School Graduate with minimum 5 years experience as a Carpenter.

(35) Mason - Rate : $ 5.60 to $ 6.75 /hr
Must be a High School Graduate with minimum of 5 years experience as Mason.

(37) H. E. Operator - Rate $5.60 to $6.75/hr
Must be a High School Graduate with minimum of 5 years experience as a H. E. Operator

(1) Administrative Assistant - Rate $5.55 to $5.60/hr
Preferably College Graguate with knowledge in Construction Business

All the above must be able to wrk flexible time.

Closing date September 06, 2013. Interested applicants may apply @ GPPC Inc. off at As Perdido, Saipan. A copy of valid Police Clearance must be attached to the application. Incomplete application will NOT be accepted. Skills testing may be required. GPPC, INC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

GOLD'S GYM

Staff Accountant (Part Time or Full Time)

Gold's Gym Saipan is searching for the right candidate to join our team as a Staff Accountant.

Primary Responsibilities:
- Preparation of monthly journal entries and account reconciliations
- Preparation of monthly profit & loss statements, balance sheets on demand
- Payroll
- Accounts receivable reports
- Preparation of tax payments and filing of BGRT's
- Bank transmittals and check research
- Prepare collection reports
- Maintain accounting files
- Perform other duties as assigned

Qualifications:
- Bachelor's degree in Accounting
- Minimum 3 years in related position
- Proficiency in QuickBooks
- Excellent computer skills

To apply, please submit your resume and complete an application form available at the Gold's Gym Front Desk. No phone calls, please.

WHATZIT Solution: Magic Circle

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

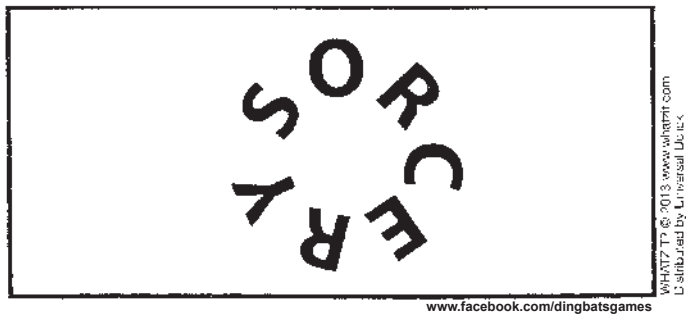
Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



Find today's solution in classified section

Manziel to sit half of A&M's opener against Rice

HOUSTON (AP)—Johnny Football's season will start a little late.

Johnny Manziel was suspended for the first half of Texas A&M's opening game against Rice on Saturday for what the school called an "inadvertent" violation of NCAA rules by signing autographs.

The penalty appears to have brought a quick end to an investigation that could have ruined the seventh-ranked Aggies' upcoming season.

The school issued a statement Wednesday saying it declared the Heisman Trophy winner ineligible and that the NCAA agreed to reinstate Manziel after he sits out the first half against the underdog Owls.

"I am proud of the way both Coach Sumlin and Johnny handled this situation, with integrity and honesty," Texas A&M Chancellor John Sharp said in the statement. "We all take the Aggie Code of Honor very seriously and there is no evidence that either the university or Johnny violated that code."

The quarterback was being investigated by the NCAA for allegedly accepting money for signing autographs for memorabilia brokers, a violation of NCAA rules that could have led to a much longer suspension. ESPN first reported the allegations against Manziel earlier this month.

According to the statement, Texas A&M and the NCAA "confirmed there is no evidence Manziel received money in exchange for autographs based on currently available information and statements by Manziel."

Conditions for reinstatement include Manziel discussing his actions with teammates and A&M revising how it educates student-athletes about signing autographs.

"Student-athletes are often asked for autographs from fans, but unfortunately, some individuals' sole motivation in seeking an autograph is for resale," said Kevin Lennon, NCAA vice president of academic and membership affairs. "It is important that schools are cognizant and educate student-athletes about situations in which there is a strong likelihood that the autograph seeker plans to resell the items."

He likely will be replaced in the starting lineup by either junior Matt Joeckel or freshman Kenny Hill. Joeckel has thrown only 11 passes in his college career.

The news of Manziel's suspension was the talk of Twitter on Wednesday afternoon, with many questioning the length of the suspension. Former NFL and MLB star Deion Sanders was incredulous at the brevity of Manziel's suspension, after Dez Bryant was suspended for an entire season while at Oklahoma State after lying about having dinner with Sanders.

AP

In this Aug. 5, 2013, file photo, Texas A&M quarterback Johnny Manziel throws during NCAA college football practice in College Station, Texas

"Can we investigate the investigators? (at)DezBryant got suspended a season 4 lying about a dinner that wasnt a violation & Manziel gets a half," Sanders tweeted soon after the ruling was made public.

The decision also had a major impact in Las Vegas, where the odds of Manziel's chances of repeating as a Heisman winner and Texas A&M's chances of winning the national championship shifted dramatically on Wednesday. RJ Bell, the founder of sports betting web site Pregame.com, said that Manziel's chances of winning the Heisman jumped from 12/1 to 6/1 on Wednesday, and the team's shot at the title increased from 18/1 to 10/1.

The latest problem isn't the first time off-the-field trouble has put Manziel's career in jeopardy.

Manziel was arrested last summer after a bar fight near campus and charged with disorderly conduct, possession of the fake ID and failure to identify himself to police. It was an incident that put him in danger of being suspended from school and left him having to earn the starting job in fall camp.

Manziel admitted this June that he failed to identify himself to police following the altercation. As part of a plea deal, other charges against the 20-year-old, including disorderly conduct, were dismissed, and it looked like Manziel's trouble was behind him before the latest problems came to light.

Manziel became the first freshman to win the Heisman Trophy last season, setting numerous school and Southeastern Conference records while leading Texas A&M to an 11-2 mark and a victory over No. 1 Alabama in its first season in the SEC.

He followed that with a high-profile offseason of road trips to Las Vegas and the NBA Finals. Manziel got to meet Heat star LeBron James and rapper Drake, and he posted some Tweets that made headlines.

His biggest misstep, however, came during the summer when he departed early from a quarterback camp for high school players run by the Manning family in Louisiana. Manziel said it was a mutual decision after he overslept and missed meetings and activities.

Dat Nguyen, an All-America linebacker at Texas A&M in the 1990s and former assistant coach for the Aggies, lamented Manziel's mistakes, but noted what he's done for the program.

"I'm a little bit disappointed with what's going on down there," Nguyen said recently. "Going into the season I thought this would be the year for A&M to win a national championship and this has been a distraction. He made a bad decision and he's just got to move on ... but overall the guy has put A&M back on the map."

Former Texas A&M coach R.C. Slocum, who is now a special adviser to Texas A&M's president, has watched Manziel's career with great interest and is looking forward to seeing how he'll follow up his incredible first season.

"This young man has been in a position that no one has ever been in," Slocum said on Wednesday before the suspension was announced. "He's been a freshman and a 20-year-old winner of the Heisman Trophy, and he's done some great things with that and he's had a few things I'm sure he'd like to have a do-over with. And if I were advising him, I might have said, `That's probably not in your best interests to do that or say that or be there,' but in terms of the upcoming season, I'm as anxious as anybody to see what happens and see what the results are."

Manziel was the main attraction at SEC Media Days, where he was peppered with questions but answered with the same cool and calm he often shows in the face of a pass rush.

"I don't feel like I've done anything that's catastrophic," Manziel said at the time. "Of course, I've made my mistakes. It's time to grow up."

The day before the Aggies reported for preseason practice, ESPN reported Manziel signed thousands of autographs for brokers in Texas, Florida and Connecticut, and cited unidentified sources who said Manziel was paid thousands for dollars for the signatures.

Manziel has been off-limits to the media since news broke of the NCAA investigation, but has been practicing with the Aggies.

Venus Williams loses 3rd-set tiebreaker at US Open

NEW YORK (AP)—After her latest early Grand Slam exit, Venus Williams was asked what the future holds for her at the U.S. Open.

In one breath, Williams brushed aside the unspoken reference to retirement, saying, "I definitely want to come back for the atmosphere."

And in the next, she added, "I mean, next year's Open is so far away right now."

At 33, slowed the past couple of years by an autoimmune disease that saps energy, and hampered much of this season by a bad back, Williams knows by now that such queries are going to arrive, particularly after results such as her 6-3, 2-6, 7-6 (5) loss to 56th-ranked Zheng Jie of China on a wet Wednesday at Flushing Meadows. It is the third year in a row that the two-time champion is out of the U.S. Open after two rounds.

"If I didn't think I had anything in the tank, I wouldn't be here," said Williams, who was ranked No. 1 in 2002 and is currently 60th. "I feel like I do, and that's why I'm here."

The American acquitted herself well for stretches, erasing deficits over and over again, until she simply ran out of solutions against Zheng, a former top-15 player and twice a major semifinalist.

"I just kept trying to fight today," Williams said.

In what she took as an encouraging sign, Williams was out there for 3 hours, 2 minutes, tying for the fifth-longest women's match since 1970 at the U.S. Open. The third set alone lasted 1 1/2 hours.

"I was like, `Wow, this is a marathon,'" Williams said.

Near the finish line, she faltered. On the final two points, Williams missed a volley, then a return. She wound up with 44 unforced errors in all, half on forehands, in part because Zheng kept scrambling along the baseline to get to balls and block them back, making Williams hit extra shots.

During her on-court interview, Zheng addressed the partisan crowd that was raucously pulling for Williams in Louis Armstrong Stadium, saying: "First, I want to say, `Sorry, guys.'"

Rain began falling in the early afternoon, jumbling the schedule, and eight women's singles matches were postponed entirely, including Williams' younger sister Serena against Galina Voskoboeva. More than four hours of delays during the day meant 2012 champion Andy Murray did not play his first point of the tournament until 9:55 p.m., making for the third-latest start to a U.S. Open night session.

Men were playing in the first round, women in the second, and Murray's 6-2, 6-4, 6-3 victory over 49th-ranked Michael Llodra of France began in Arthur Ashe Stadium only after 2009 champion Juan Martin del Potro wrapped up a contentious 6-3, 6-7 (5), 6-4, 7-6 (7) victory over 74th-ranked Guillermo Garcia-Lopez of Spain that stretched more than four hours.

Del Potro was irked by his opponent's repeated calls for a trainer to treat his left leg, while Garcia-Lopez kicked a towel and got into an argument with the chair umpire over a ruling to replay a point in the closing tiebreaker.

Murray, who last month became the first British man in 77 years to win Wimbledon, needed only a little more than 1 1/2 hours to get past Llodra, making only five unforced errors while compiling 34 winners.

"I'm very happy everyone stayed behind to watch," Murray told the spectators afterward. "I know it was late, but it made it special to come back to a full house."

A little past midnight, 33-year-old American James Blake's career came to an end with a 6-7 (2), 3-6, 6-4, 7-6 (2), 7-6 (2) loss to 6-foot-10 Ivo Karlovic of Croatia. Blake, once ranked as high as No. 4 and a three-time major quarterfinalist, announced Monday that the U.S. Open would be his last professional tournament.

"I don't know when it's going to hit me," he said. "I don't think I'll be sleeping much tonight."

No. 17 Kevin Anderson of South Africa, No. 20 Andreas Seppi of Italy, No. 21 Mikhail Youzhny of Russia, 2001 U.S. Open title winner Lleyton Hewitt and 109th-ranked American wild-card entry Tim Smyczek were among the day's winners. But No. 16 Fabio Fognini, No. 24 Benoit Paire and No. 29 Jurgen Melzer lost, meaning 10 of the 32 seeded men bowed out in the first round.

The last match of the long day began in Ashe shortly before midnight, and it was over before 1 a.m., because 15th-seeded American Sloane Stephens needed only 58 minutes to beat 38th-ranked Urszula Radwanska of Poland 6-1, 6-1.

"Before the match, I was like, `Man, normally I would be sleeping at this time," said Stephens, who will play No. 23 Jamie Hampton in an all-American matchup in the third round.

Radwanska's older sister, 2012 Wimbledon runner-up Agnieszka, was among the women who won earlier, along with 2011 French Open champion Li Na, and No. 30 Laura Robson of Britain. Robson beat Li last year in New York, and now they'll have a rematch.

"I remember being so nervous when I walked on court," the 19-year-old Robson said. "She made a lot of mistakes in the first set, which helped quite a lot. Hopefully she'll do that again."

Carp's pinch-hit single lifts Red Sox over Orioles

BOSTON (AP)—Pinch hitter Mike Carp's bloop single to left in the eighth dropped just beyond the glove of Baltimore third baseman Manny Machado, scoring Jarrod Saltalamacchia from second with the tiebreaking run and lifting the Boston Red Sox to a 4-3 win over the Orioles on Wednesday night.

Shane Victorino drove in a run for Boston with an RBI single after collecting a career-best seven RBIs and hitting two homers in a 13-2 win on Tuesday night.

Craig Breslow (4-2) got two outs to earn the win and Koji Uehara got his 14th save with a perfect ninth for the AL East-leading Red Sox, who won their fourth straight.

Chris Davis hit his major league-leading 47th homer and added an RBI double for Baltimore, which lost for the sixth time in its last eight games.

Saltalamacchia hit a two-out double high off the left-field wall against Tommy Hunter (3-3) and Stephen Drew was walked intentionally before Carp's bloop fell just past the glove off Machado in short left field.

Rangers 12, Mariners 4

In Seattle, Leonys Martin homered and drove in a career-high four runs and Texas roughed up Felix Hernandez in a win over Seattle.

The AL West-leading Rangers tagged Hernandez (12-8) for nine runs and 11 hits in three-plus innings. The former AL Cy Young winner's ERA climbed from 2.63 to 2.97.

Athletics 14, Tigers 4

In Detroit, Brandon Moss homered twice and drove in six runs to lead Oakland over Detroit.

Moss has three home runs in his past two games for the A's, who had a season-high 21 hits and have won the first three games of the four-game series by a combined score of 28-13.

Josh Donaldson had three hits and drove in two runs, and Eric Sogard had two RBIs for Oakland.

Blue Jays 7, Yankees 2

In Toronto, Edwin Encarnacion hit a two-run home run, rookie Todd Redmond snapped a seven-start winless streak and Toronto beat New York.

The Blue Jays took two out of three from the Yankees after losing 12 of their first 13 meetings this season. They're 3-3 against New York at home and 0-10 on the road.

Redmond (2-2) left to a standing ovation after striking out Alfonso Soriano and Alex Rodriguez to begin the sixth inning. He allowed two runs and three hits, walked four and struck out seven for his first victory since beating Minnesota on July 7.

Rays 4, Angels 1

In St. Petersburg, Fla., Chris Archer pitched seven strong innings, David DeJesus scored twice and Tampa Bay ended Los Angeles' four-game winning streak.

Archer (8-5) allowed one run and five hits while striking out five. For the fifth time in his last 10 starts, the rookie right-hander did not walk a batter.

Archer breezed through the first six innings, scattering three singles and facing 20 batters, only two over the minimum.

Royals 8, Twins 1

In Minneapolis, Salvador Perez had four hits and two home runs, Danny Duffy pitched 6 2-3 shutout innings and Kansas City beat Minnesota.

Perez hit two-run shots in the fourth and eighth innings as the Royals won their fourth straight.

Duffy (2-0) allowed five hits and struck out seven in his third start for Kansas City since having elbow surgery last June.

White Sox 6, Astros 1

In Chicago, Chris Sale struck out 12 over eight-plus dominant innings and Avisail Garcia hit a three-run homer to lead Chicago to a win over Houston.

Garcia finished with three hits for the White Sox, who have won 10 of their last 12 games.

Sale (10-12) bounced back from an embarrassing start Friday night against Texas in which he allowed a career-worst four home runs. Against Houston, he gave up only one run on four hits.

Dodgers 4, Cubs 0

In Angeles, Dodgers rookie Yasiel Puig was pulled by manager Don Mattingly after four innings following a pair of early episodes, and Los Angeles beat the Chicago Cubs.

Puig didn't slide into second base to try to break up a double play in the first inning, then slammed his bat after striking out in the third. The Cuban newcomer is hitting .346.

Pirates 7, Brewers 1

In Pittsburgh, Marlon Byrd celebrated his arrival in Pittsburgh with a three-run homer and the Pirates beat Milwaukee.

Byrd, acquired along with catcher John Buck from the New York Mets on Tuesday, hit his 22nd homer of the season into the bushes in center field in the seventh inning as Pittsburgh ended a three-game losing streak.

Reds 10, Cardinals 0

In St. Louis, Jay Bruce homered and drove in five runs as Cincinnati tagged Adam Wainwright, leading Homer Bailey and the Reds over St. Louis to avoid a three-game sweep.

The Reds came out swinging against the NL Central leaders a few hours after Brandon Phillips' expletive-filled tirade at a newspaper reporter who commented on the star's sagging on-base percentage.

Braves 3, Indians 2

In Atlanta, Chris Johnson singled to left with two outs in the ninth inning for his first career walk-off hit and the Atlanta Braves won again at home, beating Cleveland.

Jordan Schafer drove in Atlanta's first two runs, then scored the winner after reaching on an infield single and stealing his second base of the night. Freddie Freeman was intentionally walked before Johnson lined a 2-2 pitch to left off Joe Smith (5-2).

Phillies 6, Mets 2

In New York, Cole Hamels pitched seven strong innings and handed himself some much-needed run support, sending the Philadelphia Phillies past the New York Mets.

Carlos Ruiz homered and the Phillies overcame a couple of mental mistakes by shortstop Jimmy Rollins to win for only the third time in 17 road games. Hamels hit a two-run single to help Philadelphia improve to 8-5 under interim manager Ryne Sandberg.

Daisuke Matsuzaka (0-2) labored through 4 1-3 innings on Japanese Heritage Night in his second start for the new-look Mets, who have dropped six of seven.

Nationals 4, Marlins 3

In Washington, Ian Desmond had three hits, including the go-ahead RBI single in the seventh inning, and the Washington Nationals kept pace on the fringes of the playoff race with a rain-delayed win over Miami.

Desmond also scored a run and stole a base, and Jayson Werth homered for the Nationals, who have won seven of eight.

Drew Storen (4-2), the fourth of six Nationals pitchers, worked out of a seventh-inning jam and got the win on a night when starter Stephen Strasburg was done after two innings because of a 72-minute rain delay. Strasburg had promising stuff: He got his six outs on 22 pitches with no hits allowed.

Rockies 5, Giants 4

In Denver, Jhoulys Chacin did not allow a hit for 6 2-3 innings and hustled for a crucial RBI to help the Colorado Rockies beat San Francisco.

Chacin (13-7) tied a season high with nine strikeouts. Brandon Crawford's single to center field was the only hit Chacin allowed in seven innings. He also yielded an unearned run.

Padres 5, Diamondbacks 1

In Phoenix, Will Venable homered and drove in three runs, Robbie Erlin pitched six effective innings in his return to the majors and the San Diego Padres avoided a three-game sweep with a win over Arizona.

Venable drove in the first of the Padres' two runs off Wade Miley (9-9) in the first inning and gave them a cushion with a two-run homer in the eighth. He's hitting .390 with eight homers in August and has an eight-game hitting streak.

Back to School Blowout!
Hurry in, supplies are limited!
$30.95 per week
50"-60" Smart TV
$15.95 per week
All in One Desktop Computer
Computer Desk
$9.95 per week
$11.95 per week
32" TV
Home Theatre System
$12.95 per week
This is a rent to own transaction. You do not own the product until all rental payments are made or purchase is made. See store for HUGE selection!
DIAL Rent-to-Own
You're Approved, No Credit Checks!
SAIPAN 234-RENT
Middle Road next to Subway

Pacquiao not taking foe lightly, starts light training

BOXING

GENERAL SANTOS CITY, Philippines—Eight-division boxing champ Manny Pacquiao has started training for his Nov. 24 fight against Brandon "Bambam" Rios in Macau, China.

Assistant coach Buboy Fernandez described the preparation as light training before the workout shifts to high gear when chief trainer Freddie Roach arrives from the US in the first week of September.

"Coach Freddie will take over upon his arrival here," said Fernandez yesterday.

Pacquiao jogged at the rubberized track oval of Antonio C. Acharon Memorial Sports Center in Calumpang village for about 15 minutes last Tuesday then played volleyball with the members of team Pacquiao.

Fernandez said the light training is designed to restore Pacquiao's stamina, noting that the Filipino champion had a long layoff after his loss last December to Mexican Juan Manuel Marquez.

After jogging and playing either volleyball or basketball in the morning, Pacquiao will proceed to his boxing gym in Tambler at 3 p.m. to do abdominal exercises, jump rope, shadow boxing before hitting the speedball.

Fernandez said they are not taking Rios lightly so they decided to train early. He said two conditioning coaches are also coming to help prepare Pacman for the Rios bout.

Pacquiao said he would spend the duration of his longest training camp ever in his boxing career in this city. ***(PDI)***

Pacquiao

Redskins' RG3 could get OK from doctor on Thursday

By JOSEPH WHITE
AP SPORTS WRITER

NFL

ASHBURN, Va. (AP)—Robert Griffin III could be cleared to play in the regular season when he meets with his surgeon Thursday night.

Washington Redskins coach Mike Shanahan said Tuesday that Griffin will meet with Dr. James Andrews while the Redskins are in Florida for their final preseason game against the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

"I know Dr. Andrews will sit down and evaluate Robert and probably just give us his recommendation," Shanahan said.

Even if Andrews gives the thumbs-up, the final decision on whether Griffin plays in the Sept. 9 opener rests with the coach. Shanahan has said that even if Griffin is medically ready, the coach could see something in practice that might give him pause.

Andrews cleared Griffin for practice before the start of training camp but has yet to give the OK for the quarterback to play in games. Andrews examined Griffin again before the Aug. 19 home preseason game and "felt very good" about Griffin's progress, according to Shanahan.

While Griffin has sat out the preseason, he's moved well in practice and told ESPN 980 on Tuesday that he's "not below 100 percent."

"You're hoping he's 100 percent," Shanahan said. "The reason I'm a little iffy on that is I want to judge him every day. But I have not seen a setback; he looks good. I've seen much improvement from the first day to where he is now."

Griffin had reconstructive surgery on his right knee in January, a few days after he was hurt in the Redskins' playoff loss to the Seattle Seahawks. He's made a remarkable recovery, given the nature of the injury, and has not missed a day of practice.

"You can see he's in football shape," Shanahan said. "And there hasn't been a setback, so everything's been very positive."

With backup Kirk Cousins nursing a sprained right foot, the Redskins are again down to two quarterbacks—Rex Grossman and Pat White—for Thursday. Because Shanahan usually prefers not to play most of his starters and longtime veterans in the final preseason game, he plans to rest Grossman as well.

"Pat White will play the entire game, unless he goes down. If he goes down, Rex will go in. If he goes down, I'm going in," Shanahan said with a laugh.

Paire FC, Tinian meet in friendly matches tomorrow

Paire Football Club and Tinian Premier Football Club will play three exhibition games tomorrow at the Koblerville Elementary School Field.

The opening match set is for 9am is for U8 players of the two clubs, while U10 and U12 players will have their respective games at 10am and 11am.

Paire FC board member Derek Chambers is encouraging the club's players in the U8 to U12 age group to show up and give the visitors good games. He added that the three friendly games will be used to prepare players of the host club for the upcoming fall youth league.

After this weekend's friendly matches, it will be Tinian's turn to host Paire FC players for a series of games on Sept. 7. Paire said Star Marianas will be providing free airfare to the club players heading to Tinian next month and time and venue of the friendly matches will be announced later. ***(PR)***

CNMI

From Page 32

Tahiti," CNMI coach Jeff Race said in a telephone interview with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

The eight Final Four berths surpassed the Commonwealth junior players' feat in the 2011 and 2012 editions of the POCJ, which the CNMI also topped (in terms of semis appearances). Race's wards won six Final Four tickets in 2011 to beat Fiji (4) and then had five last year to also down Fiji (4).

This year, the CNMI edged Tahiti, which notched seven semis slots, and the nine remaining berths went to Fiji (3), Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, American Samoa, Kiribati, Palau, and Papua New Guinea, which had only one player each entered in the Final Four. Ren, Tan, Schorr, and Lee all made it to the semis of the U12 singles, Ackerman and Cajigan advanced in the U15, and Minor and Lopez marched into the playoffs in the U18.

"Everybody played well. The first year (2011) when we won the most semis berths, it was quite unexpected, as for the past years Fiji and PNG are on top. Then we did it again last year, so this year, we had a very strong team and kind of expected to top the field again. Still, you can't be overconfident, as some players may show up and do well, so when we held our ground against Tahiti, we're happy we did not disappoint," said Race, who gave his players just a few days of rest and started their training yesterday at the Pacific Islands Club.

"We have to start again. Correct the mistakes they committed in the past tournament and improved their skills and techniques," said Race.

The CNMI mentor said they have to continue training, as the quality of players competing in next year's POJC will surely go up.

"The two player limit per country will no longer be in effect, so it will be a very interesting and tough competition," Race said.

MIEKO

From Page 32

these achievements despite facing an earlier threat of cancellation of the event and a more treacherous course.

"A day (Friday) before the race, everyone was worried we may not have a race, as it was raining heavily from 9am to 9pm. We had warning about mudslide. The temperature was around 60 (Fahrenheit). Only race organizer and volunteers were outside, working hard even there was lightning," Carey said.

The race eventually pushed through, but it was still raining at the start of the swim leg and Carey said although the event began at 12:10pm, the water was still cold and this caused her breathing problems.

"The temperature was up to 70 at this point but still it was cold for me. I have been living under 90-95 for 10 years. Fortunately, we saw the sun a few meters into the swim leg and got a perfect day for the rest of race," said Carey, who finished the swim leg in 19:18 and was third out of the water overall and first in the women's division.

Next up was the bike leg, which Carey said was more of a 25K bike ride and 10K run with the bike.

"The wet mud, roots, rock made me lose control several times. However, I kept telling myself to focus and not rush things otherwise I will get hurt and fall down to the lake with my bike. In some parts of the course, I knew I could go faster if I carry my bike and run than try to ride it," said the pro triahlete, who submitted 1:43:53 in the second leg of the race.

After her adventure in the bike leg, Carey earned a nearly 11-minute lead over Japan's Yasuko Miyazaki and over 20 minutes against Australia's Emma Francis. She kept the safe distance in the run leg and secured the win despite having breathing problems in the last phase of the race due to the high altitude.

"We had a climb at the start of the course and used a rope. It was a trail run with so many rocks and roots. I could feel high altitude and it was just hard to breath. My chest and lungs were tight and it felt like I was about to have a heart attack. But as I got through the course, I started to relax," said Carey, who finished the run leg in 53:00 and was the lone female triathlete to complete the race under three hours, as Miyazaki and Francis submitted 3:11:05 and 3:43:52, respectively.

KAIPAT

From Page 32

and the Padres' Kier Agda hitting 7-for-17 (.412) to placing third and fourth, respectively, while the Braves' A.J. Lizama rounded out the Top 5 with his .357 (5-for-14).

Completing the Top 10 in the batting race, which was based on 12 or more times at bat, are the Dodgers' Jhace Palacios (.333/4-for-12), the Padres' Kanoa Wanket (.308/4-for-13), the Braves' Lucio Kalen (.308/4-for-13), and the Padres and siblings Verlance (267/4-for-15) and Lancaster Secharmidal (.231/3-for-13).

In the doubles category, Kaipat, Lizama, and the Padres' Quinson Blas share the lead with two apiece, while there is also a tie in the triple race with the Tigers' Ricardo Dela Cruz, Tenorio, Agda, and the Dodgers' Jonathan Cabrera getting one each. In the RBIs race, Kaipat is also on top with his three, the same number the Giants' Franco Nakamura has.

In the pitching race, seven players recorded 0.00 ERA after last Monday's games. The list includes the Braves Logan Martin, Frankie Lieto, and A.J. Evangelista, the Dodgers' Brian Camacho, the Padres Jared Sablan and Angel Palacios, and the Yankees' Gino Dela Cruz. Completing the Top 10 are the Yankees' Darion Jones. Brel, and Wanket.

Martin pitched in eight innings and allowed six runs, while Lieto gave up three runs in 7.2 innings pitched. Camacho and Sablan only allowed one run each in 6.1 and 5 innings pitch, respectively, while Evangelista pitched also pitched five innings, but gave up two runs. Dela Cruz and Palacios pitched 4.2 and 4 innings, respectively, and allowed no runs.

Though he had a 1.11 ERA to settle for ninth place in the pitching race, Brel has the most strikeouts so far, getting eight strikeouts in three games. The Braves' J.J. Lifoifoi and Lieto also had eight each to share the top spot, while Jones gained seven.

Meanwhile, games in the Triple A league will resume this weekend, weather permitting. Last Wednesday's matches were cancelled due to rain.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	79	55	.590	_
Tampa Bay	75	56	.573	2 1/2
Baltimore	70	61	.534	7 1/2
New York	70	63	.526	8 1/2
Toronto	60	74	.448	19

Central Division

Detroit	77	56	.579	_
Cleveland	71	61	.538	5 1/2
Kansas City	68	64	.515	8 1/2
Minnesota	57	74	.435	19
Chicago	56	76	.424	20 1/2

West Division

Texas	78	55	.586	_
Oakland	75	57	.568	2 1/2
Los Angeles	59	72	.450	18
Seattle	59	73	.447	18 1/2
Houston	44	88	.333	33 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Atlanta	80	52	.606	_
Washington	67	65	.508	13
Philadelphia	61	72	.459	19 1/2
New York	59	72	.450	20 1/2
Miami	49	82	.374	30 1/2

Central Division

St. Louis	78	55	.586	_
Pittsburgh	77	55	.583	1/2
Cincinnati	75	59	.560	3 1/2
Milwaukee	58	74	.439	19 1/2
Chicago	56	77	.421	22

West Division

Los Angeles	78	55	.586	_
Arizona	68	64	.515	9 1/2
Colorado	63	72	.467	16
San Diego	60	73	.451	18
San Francisco	59	74	.444	19

BY THE ASSOCIATES PRESS

S.J. Ol'Aces, Cougars notch fourth win

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The S.J. Ol'Aces and Kagman Cougars gained their fourth victory in the U19 division of the 22nd Annual Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League after recording contrasting wins last Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The S.J. Ol'Aces toyed with the COPSSA Warriors (0-3) in the first game, 87-25, to keep their undefeated mark after four games, while the Cougars improved to a 4-1 slate, following a close 55-51 victory over the Ol'Aces (1-2) in the second and last match of the night.

Four S.J. Ol'Aces players scored in twin digits to rout the Warriors, who lacked manpower to keep up with their highly favored foes. The Warriors played with only six players against the 11-man roster of the S.J. Ol'Aces, which drew 18 points from Derek Olopai, 16 from Darius Pettis, and 12 each from Mark Babauta and Malcolm Maui. The seven other S.J. Ol'Aces also made it to the scoreboard.

Babauta and Pettis knocked in 8 points apiece in the first period to lift the S.J. Ol'Aces to a 29-10 lead. The S.J. Ol'Aces continued to pour points in the second canto, while the Warriors had a nightmare on offense, making only 2 points to hand the win to the former right at the end of the first half.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The Kagman Cougars' Frank Mettao goes up for a jump hook against two Ol'Aces players during the third quarter of their game in the U19 division of the Rotary caging last Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

In the second game, the Cougars also had a depleted lineup, but managed to get past the Ol'Aces.

The Cougars had only six players, but bounced back from double-digit deficit early in the third period to eke out the 4-point win.

The third canto started with the Ol'Aces ahead, 32-25, and the lead increased to as much as 11, 39-28, as Adrian De Luna, Jethro Cruz, and Jun William lit up the scoreboard early in that frame. However, the Cougars grabbed the upper hand after the third canto, 42-39, as it held the Ol'Aces scoreless for about four minutes and Frank Mettao and John Santos got their offensive game going.

Santos picked up where he left off in fourth quarter, drilling 6 of the Cougars' first 7 points, while his three other teammates delivered crucial baskets in the homestretch to thwart the Ol'Aces.

First Game

S.J. Ol'Aces 87 – Olopai 18, Pettis 16, Babauta 12, Maui 12, San Nicolas 6, Mizer 7, Cruz 2, Nabors 2, Camacho 2, Mendoza 2, De Leon 1.

COPSSA Warriors 25 – Montes 9, Ogasawara 6, Amog 2, Feria 2, Po 2, Yap 1.

Scoring by quarters: 29-10, 54-12, 73-19, 87-25.

Second Game

Kagman Cougars 55 – Jo. Santos 20, Malwelbug 11, Je. Santos 10, Mettao 8, Palino 2, Paren 2.

Ol'Aces 51 – Kaipat 21, Olopai 8, Cruz 4, De Luna 3, Magofna 2, William 2, Moses 2.

Scoring by quarters: 19-18, 25-32, 42-39, 55-51.

8 pairs gain playoff berths

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Hannah Choi reaches in for the shuttlecock during her and Alma Ortega's game against Windy Fernandez and Lani Bartolome in the 2013 Shirley's Badminton Classic at the TSL Sports Complex.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Eight tandems bagged semis berths in the women's doubles division of the 2013 Shirley's Badminton Classic after last weekend's games at the TSL Sports Complex.

In the women's Class A doubles, the favored Hannah Choi and Alma Ortega gained the top seeding in the playoffs after finishing the eliminations with a 4-1 record. Choi and Ortega won their last two matches in the elimination round, beating Elna Curate and Loida Ito, 21-10, 21-8, and Toshiko Obata and Annarose Omori, 21-10, 21-18

Joining the top-ranked duo in the Final Four are the pairs of Obata and Omori, Windy Fernandez and Lani Bartolome, and Shirley Kim and Anna Alvarez. Omori and Obata placed second in the group with a 3-2 record and will be challenging Fernandez and Bartolome, who held a 2-3 mark, in the semifinals. Kim and Alvarez took the last semis ticket after saving one win and will be pitted against Ortega and Choi.

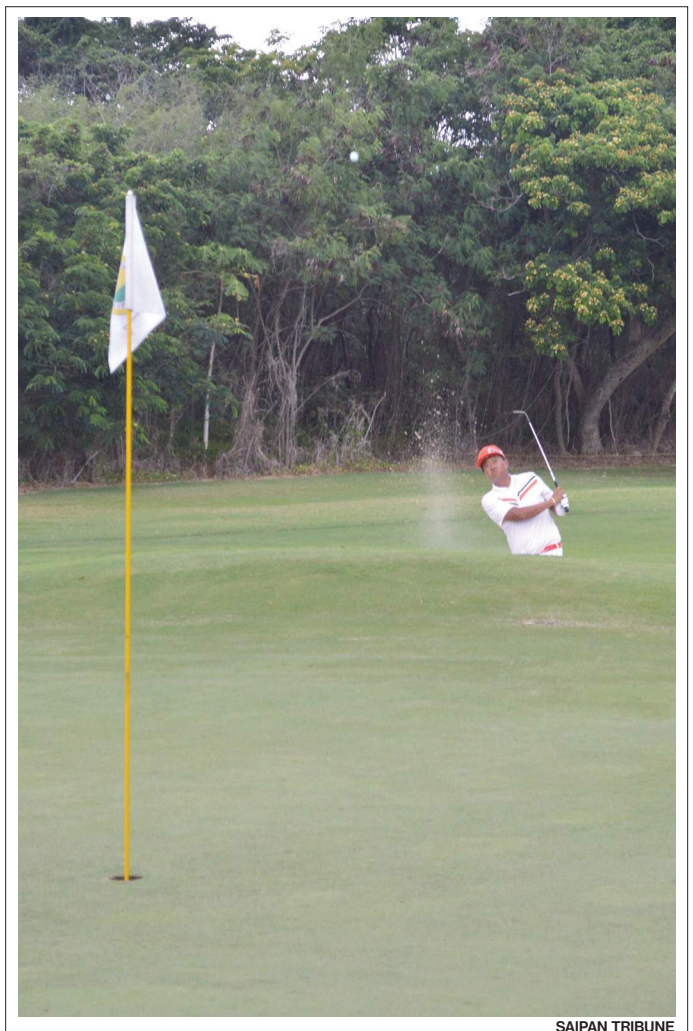
In the women's doubles C, the pair of Dianne Francisco and Rowena Sison led the semis cast. They finished the eliminations at first place, earning a 4-0 record after sweeping their last two games over the weekend. Sison and Francisco first downed Judy Mendieta and Patricia Sison last Saturday, 21-13, 21-11, before thumping Roxe Lazaro and Lani Santos last Sunday, 21-11, 21-13.

Lazaro and Santos are also in the semifinals, as they got two wins and placed third in the group. They will be meeting second-ranked Havikka Farro and Mykki Caracut, who notched three wins in the elimination. Farro and Caracut are slightly favored in the semis, as they defeated Lazaro and Santos in the elimination last Friday, 21-14, 13-21, 21-17.

Rounding out the Final Four cast in Class C were Nicole Malasarte and Mika Serrano, who managed to get one victory to earn the right to duel Sison and Francisco at the start of the playoff round.

Meanwhile, the semifinalists in the Class C doubles also entered the Final Four in the singles division. Farro took the No. 1 seeding and is joined by Sison, Malasarte, and Lazaro to the next round.

Other qualifiers in the remaining divisions will be determined tonight and tomorrow, as several elimination games and knockout matches have yet to be completed.



SAIPAN TRIBUNE
A golfer watches his shot from a bunker at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort during a local tournament early this month.

MARPAC golf tournament set for Sept. 14

Marianas Pacific Distributors, Inc. will hold a golf tournament next month in celebration of its 40th anniversary.

The competition is set for Sept. 14 at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort. Entry fees are $100 (single) and $175 (team of two), which include greens fee, lunch buffet and snack, dinner banquet, and free-flowing ice-cold beverages. The golf tournament also features exciting raffle prizes and $40,000 and a brand new car for hole-in-one prizes.

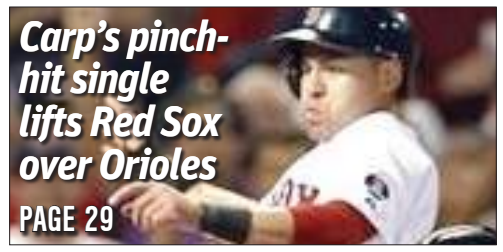
"To celebrate 40 years of experience and dedication, we wanted to share our continued success with our loyal industry and community partners. We look forward to strengthening the foundation of the partnerships we've built over the years," said Guy F. Pudney, MARPAC Inc. resident manager and 40th anniversary celebration chairman.

The golf tournament is limited to the first 144 players. Interested players/teams must fill out the registration form and submit it together with the payment by Sept. 6 at MARPAC, Inc.

For more details, contact Michelle Villacrusis at 234-7113 or mvillacrusis@marpacspn.com.

As another way of giving back and expressing our gratitude to our loyal customers, MARPAC, Inc. and Budweiser is also having the "40 Days of Giveaways." Residents 21 and over are encouraged to purchase a 12-pack or bucket of Bud or Bud Light for a chance to win daily prize and cash giveaways for 40 days like Bud gears, hotel stays, roundtrip tickets to Guam or Manila, $4,000 cash grand prize, and many more. ***(PR)***

Saipan Tribune
Sports



CNMI proves mettle in Fiji

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members and supporters of the CNMI Junior Team pose with other players of the North Pacific Team during the opening of the 2013 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Fiji early this month.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Junior Tennis Team accomplished its mission in the 2013 ITF Pacific Oceania Junior Championships held early this month in Fiji.

The squad, which was composed of U12's Carol Lee, Tania Tan, Michael Ren, and Robbie Schorr, U15's Negahr Rastguiy, Tammy Ackerman, Moris Villanueva, and Chris Cajigan, and U18's Tommy Choi, Amami Sakano, Jake Lee, Mikayla Lopez, and Thea Minor, bagged eight semis berths in the singles division and all six finals berth in the doubles.

"It was a very good showing for our team. I guess our best showing in POJC and we did it despite facing very strong players from

See CNMI on Page 30

Mieko ties record, gets best time in XTERRA Japan

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Former Saipan pro triathlete Mieko Carey earned two feats in last Saturday's XTERRA Japan Championship.

Carey ruled the annual tournament held in Marunuma, Gunma Prefecture for the fourth time, matching the record of inaugural winner Jamie Whitmore (2004-2007). On top of her record-tying win, Carey also broke the three-hour barrier after completing the 1.2-kilometer swim, 25-km mountain bike race, and 10-km run off-road event in 2:56:11.

"I am very happy I made it to the finish line under three hours. It has been my goal since I first joined the tournament. It took me six years to get at this point," said Carey, who moved to Guam late last year after representing Saipan in XTERRA Japan for the past six years.

She won XTERRA Japan for three consecutive years (2009, 2010, and 2011) and clocked in over three hours in those occasions (3:00:16, 3:03:00, and 3:00:05) before losing the women's title in 2012 to U.S. pro Shonny Vanlandingham. Mieko also submitted over three hours (3:07:37) in last year's race, more than 15 minutes behind the 2:52:22 of Vanlandingham.

Carey managed to pull off

See MIEKO on Page 30

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Mieko Carey smiles for the camera after winning the 2013 XTERRA Japan Championship last Saturday.

Kaipat stands out in Triple A league

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Padres' Khobby Kaipat is leading in three categories in the 2nd Annual Triple A Youth Baseball League.

Kaipat went 10-for-16 after five games with the Padres (5-0) for a field's best batting average of .625. He is the lone slugger so far to have a batting average of at least .600, as second placer and teammate Patrick Tenorio owns .538 off a 7-for-13 performance at the plate. Two other players are in the .400s with the Giants' Jessel Brel going 5-for-12 (.417)

See KAIPAT on Page 30

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Padres' Khobby Kaipat gets ready to bat during their game against the Yankees in the 2nd Annual Triple A Youth Baseball League early this month at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.